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DENR

NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR eyes P181.6-M Covid waste management system

By Eireene Jairee Gomez
November 29, 2021



THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) proposed a P181.6-million allocation for the establishment of a preliminary treatment and storage facility for Covid-19-related health care waste from its P774-million solid waste management program budget for 2022.

Through the Environmental Management Bureau, the DENR plans to provide funds for 227 local government units (LGUs) nationwide for the proper collection, treatment, storage and disposal of protective personal equipment, syringes, vials and other wastes from households, vaccination sites and testing and quarantine facilities.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said the plan will help address the increase in Covid-19-related health care wastes during the pandemic.

"While Covid-19 cases in the country have started to decline, health care wastes generated by the situation have continuously become a challenge among cities and provinces. Through this program, we hope to support LGUs in improving the collection of Covid-19-related health care wastes, especially in remote areas and among small generators that are not serviced by treatment, storage and disposal facilities," Cimatu said.



DENR eyes P181.6-M Covid waste management system

Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and LGUs Concerns Benny Antiporda said the proposed treatment and storage facility will serve as a "temporary and transit point" for Covid-19-related health care wastes.

The proposal was developed by the DENR based on the recommendation of Senators Cynthia Villar and Francis Tolentino during the Senate budget hearing last month to extend more assistance to LGUs for the management of Covid-related health care wastes.

The proposed P181.6-million budget will be coursed through the DENR regional offices. Each LGU will receive P800,000 for the establishment of special waste facilities.

Aside from the preliminary treatment and storage facility, the solid waste management program budget for 2022 will include support for the establishment of trash traps, collection and disposal services for garbage patches, provision of solid waste management equipment, such shredders, composters and plastic recycling equipment for LGUs nationwide, and hauling services for solid waste collected in Boracay.



[DENR calls for stronger policy on use, disposal of antimicrobials to protect ecosystems](#)

NOV 29, 2021, 2:21 PM



Santiago Celario
Writer

Environment officials say the rise in antibiotic consumption could not only endanger people's health but also bring permanent damage to the environment.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) recently underscored the importance of enforcing policies on the proper use and disposal of antimicrobials.

DENR Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment Juan Miguel Cuna echoed the campaign of the Department of Health (DOH) against antimicrobial resistance during the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week High-Level Media Forum on November 18.

"Important policy measures that target specific high-risk environments with elevated concentrations of antibiotics, such as wastewater treatment plants in hospitals, health care facilities, and pharmaceutical industries are of utmost importance," Cuna said.

"The proper use and disposal policies of these antibiotics are vital in maintaining ecological sustainability," he added.



[DENR calls for stronger policy on use, disposal of antimicrobials to protect ecosystems](#)

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu also stressed the parallel importance of behavior change in addressing antimicrobial resistance and in caring for the environment.

"Just like addressing environmental issues, the Filipino people need behavior change to combat antibiotic misuse and abuse and prevent antimicrobial resistance in the country," he said.

During the forum, Cuna noted that the rise in antibiotic consumption could not only endanger people's health but also bring permanent damage to the environment.

The undersecretary also explained the need to strengthen the awareness campaign on the relation of antibiotic presence on the ecosystem.

According to the World Health Organization, the environment plays a major role in antibiotic resistance where bacteria in soil, rivers, and seawater can develop resistance through contact with resistant bacteria, antibiotics, and disinfectant agents released by human activity.



DENR MAGLALAN NG PONDO SA LGUs PARA SA COVID WASTE



November 29, 2021 @ 2:13 PM 15 hours ago

IMINUNGKAHI ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang P181.6 milyong alokasyon para sa pagtatayo ng preliminary treatment at storage facility para sa coronavirus-related healthcare waste mula sa P774 million solid waste management program budget sa taong 2022.

Sa pamamagitan ng Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), plano ng DENR na maglaan ng pondo para sa lahat ng local government unit (LGU) sa buong bansa na kumakatawan sa 81 probinsya at 146 lungsod para sa wastong pagkolekta, treatment, storage at disposal ng protective personal equipment, syringes, vials at iba pang COVID-related healthcare waste mula sa households, vaccination sites, testing at quarantine facilities.

Ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, makatutulong ito na matugunan ang pagtaas ng bilang ng mga COVID-19 related healthcare wastes sa bansa ngayong may pandemya.

“Habang nagsisimula nang bumaba ang mga kaso ng COVID-19 sa bansa, ang mga basura mula sa healthcare wastes dulot ng pandemya ay patuloy na nagiging hamon sa mga lungsod at lalawigan. Sa pamamagitan ng programang ito, umaasa kaming masuportahan namin ang mga LGU na maisaayos ang kanilang koleksyon ng mga basura lalo na ang nauugnay sa COVID-19 related healthcare wastes, lalo na sa mga malalayong lugar at sa mga may maliliit na generator na hindi naseserbisuhan ng mga pasilidad ng treatment, storage and disposal (TSD),” saad ni Cimatu.

“The proposed treatment and storage facility will serve as a temporary and transit point for COVID-19 related healthcare wastes such as personal protective equipment, syringes, needles, and vials for chemical disinfection and storage before these are transported to a TSD facility,” paliwanag naman ni Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and LGUs Concerns Benny D. Antiporda.



DENR MAGLALAN NG PONDO SA LGUs PARA SA COVID WASTE

Ang panukalang waste management program ay inanunsiyo ni Senate Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change chair Senator Cynthia Villar na nag-isponsor sa DENR budget sa ginanap na plenary session ng upper chamber noong Nobyembre 15.



DENR launches program to teach kids conserve biodiversity

Published November 29, 2021, 5:57 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has launched a writing workshop for children to highlight their role and capacity for advocacy, communication and commitment to protect and conserve biodiversity.

DENR said the workshop entitled “Children Writing for Children” aims to provide children a platform to raise their views and voices in environmental processes and decision-making through storytelling.

The program was conducted in celebration of the first International Year of Caves and Karst.

“The endeavor is one of the DENR’s programs to educate children about the environment, the issues that surround them and their care and protection. All these will help bring about behavior change,” DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu said.

“Someday, these children will inherit our world. They will inherit our natural resources and our environment. It is important that we impart the value of conservation at a young age to make them responsible stewards of creation,” he added.

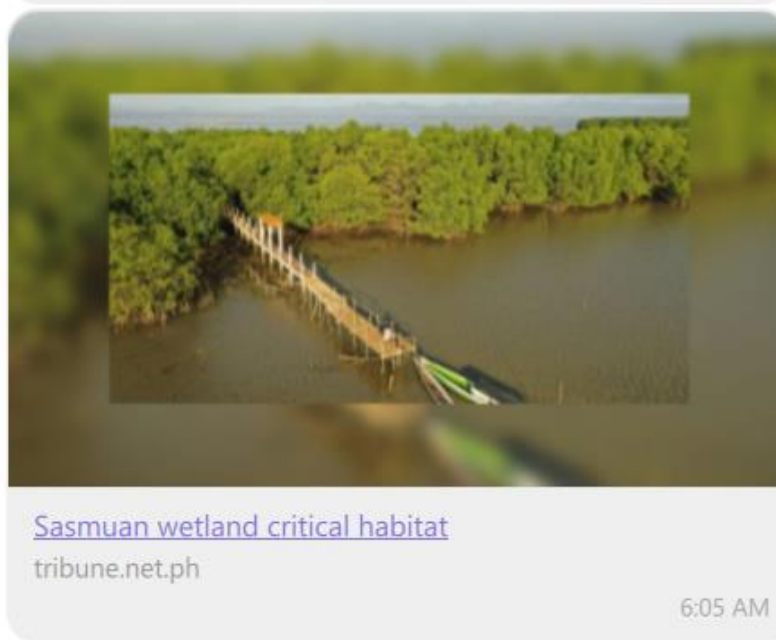
A total of 12 students, aged 8 to 11, were chosen to take part in the creative writing workshop held virtually on November 15-19, 2021.

Under the guidance of Mark Norman Boquiren, a children’s book author and staff of the DENR-BMB, the participants crafted their original stories about caves and karst ecosystems.

On the last day of the workshop, they narrated and showcased their stories live on Zoom and Facebook, DENR said. All participants were awarded certificates.



Sasmuan wetland critical habitat



Declaring Bangkung Malapad as a critical habitat and ecotourism area would mean that stricter monitoring and enforcement of environmental laws will be done to avert and combat destructive activities within the SBMCHEA

Published 5 hours ago on November 30, 2021 01:20 AM By Jonas Reyes

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga — The Sasmuan Bangkung Malapad Coastal Wetland in Sasmuan town has been declared critical habitat by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu stressed that by declaring the said ecotourism area as a critical habitat, it will be at the forefront in the government efforts in rehabilitating Manila Bay.

The secretary issued DENR Administrative Order (DAO) 2021-36, declaring the 405-hectare wetland as critical habitat and will now be known as the Sasmuan Bangkung Malapad Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area (SBMCHEA).

He added that this will intensify government efforts in protecting the mangrove and coastal ecosystem including migratory birds that frequent the area.

“The area will be sustainably managed by the DENR here and the local government of Sasmuan in Pampanga,” Cimatu said.



Sasmuan wetland critical habitat

DENR Regional Office chief Paquito Moreno said that the DAO would serve as a legal framework to protect the SBMCHEA mangrove forests and mudflats, which is a valuable ecosystem found within the more than 3,000-ha Sasmuan Pampanga Coastal Wetland — a wetland of international importance and conferred last February of this year as the 8th Ramsar Site in the country and first in Central Luzon.

“SBMCHEA is an important habitat to many endemic and threatened water birds including Philippine duck, Black-faced spoonbill, Chinese egret, Far eastern curlew, Malaysian plover, and other migratory bird species,” Moreno said.

“Collaborative works are essential to maintain its ecological services and other biological and cultural values, which are fundamental to conserve and enable this ecosystem as a driving force in the region’s socio-economic and ecotourism growth,” he added.



Signature campaign calls for protection of PH Eagle's 'ancient nesting site' in Davao City

Published November 29, 2021, 8:00 PM

by [Zea Capistrano](#)

DAVAO CITY — Environment groups in Davao City launched a signature campaign to call for the cancellation of a timber permit issued to cut down century-old trees in Mounts Makabol-Alikoson Conservation Area (MMACA), which is believed to be “an ancient nesting site” of the critically endangered Philippine eagle.

The petition calls on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Region XI to “cancel Private Land Timber Permit No. RXI-PLTP-001 2021 issued for the cutting of 121 old-growth trees within the MMACA.”

The area, estimated to cover 8,819 hectares, “supports the lives and livelihoods of over 6,000 residents of Barangay Salaysay in the uplands of Davao City,” the petition said.

The petition, which has over 700 signatures as of Monday morning (Nov. 29), was initiated by the Ecoteneo, Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability (IDIS), Philippine Eagle Foundation, Save Macabul Forest and Watershed, Students’ Environmental Alliance of Davao.

According to the petition the MMACA is an “ancient nesting site of a Philippine Eagle pair.”

“The eagle couple’s first nest was recorded by the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) in 1986. The eagle pair hatched and raised at least 12 young eagles in five nesting trees within MMACA since then,” the petition read.

“However, based on Obu Manuvu oral history in Salaysay, the mighty Banog (or Philippine Eagle) has always existed in the area,” it added.

The petition also calls on the DENR to “affirm MMACA’s designation as an environmentally critical area in the Davao City Watershed Management Code.”

It also calls on the DENR to improve its protection as a conservation area.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/11/29/signature-campaign-calls-for-protection-of-philippine-eagles-ancient-nesting-site-in-davao-city/>



OpinYon Quezonin

17 hrs

CENRO Catanauan, Elite Eagles Club conduct tree-planting activity

By Jeanelle Abaricia

CATANAUAN, Quezon – the Elite Eagles Club of this town, assisted by the staff of the Catanauan Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), recently conducted a tree-planting activity at Barangay Canculajao.

The goal of the project is to save and protect the remaining trees and woods in Catanauan.

The Conservation and Development Section assisted in this operation by executing site preparation activities such as ring weeding, staking, and hole digging in the 135.0 hectares Streambank Plantation CY 2012 in this barangay.

After the activity, the Organization held a short program and feeding program for the children of the barangay, in which they expressed their gratitude to all participants, particularly DENR-CENRO Catanauan, for supporting their activity and providing seedlings to help our environment.

The area was chosen to support the graduated NGP Sites in the jurisdiction of CENRO Catanauan, Quezon, and to align with DENR's 10 priority initiatives. A total of 200 seedlings were planted, including 100 Narra (*Pterocarpus indicus*) and 100 Kalumpit (*Pterocarpus indicus*) (*Terminalia microcarpa*).

Seedlings were planted along the Streambank to help minimize flooding and soil erosion.

Photo: DENR Calabarzon

#opinyonquezon #opinyonnews #QuezonProvince #Catanauan



Solon eyes nuclear, solar as alternatives to PH energy mix

By Hilda Austria November 29, 2021, 1:02 pm



JUMPSTARTING ENERGY TRANSITION. Senator Sherwin Gatchalian will file a bill on energy transition following the Department of Energy's (DOE) move last year banning new coal power plants to accelerate the country's shift to cleaner energy. Gatchalian was in Pangasinan on Nov. 28-29, 2021 where he turned over 5,000 personal protective equipment sets and 50 sacks of slippers to the Region 1 Medical Center in Dagupan City. *(Photo by Hilda Austria)*

DAGUPAN CITY – Senator Sherwin Gatchalian is considering nuclear and solar energy as a possible alternative or additional sources of energy in the country.

Gatchalian, Senate energy committee chairman, said he favors “in principle” smaller nuclear reactors instead of the bigger ones for flexibility and safety.

“Small ones are more flexible and safer. Safer in the sense that it is smaller, deployable, and has the technology that can use nuclear wastes. Of course, it is still in the development stage,” he said in a radio interview on Monday.

He said small nuclear reactors can produce energy from 10 to 150 megawatts.

Gatchalian, however, does not consider reviving the Bataan nuclear power plant as it will be too risky and too costly to rehabilitate the facility.

He said many are also using solar energy with some big companies putting up solar power plants.



Solon eyes nuclear, solar as alternatives to PH energy mix

“I believe it could be part of the energy transition because nuclear is emission-free but the risk is where to put the wastes and if it encounters a problem, the cost is too high. Solar deployment is still a challenge because it is still quite expensive,” he added.

Gatchalian said he will file a bill on energy transition following the Department of Energy’s (DOE) move last year banning new coal power plants to accelerate the country’s shift to cleaner energy.

“We cannot hasten the energy transition because we will have no source of energy... The energy transition can be 10 years or longer but the important thing is it’s a scientific process to determine how we can transition out of fossil fuel into renewable safely, reliably, and securely,” he said.

He added that right now, the country’s energy needs are still good with fossil fuel but it is imperative to jumpstart the transition due to the increasing population and industries.

Gatchalian was here on Sunday to turn over his donation of 5,000 sets of personal protective equipment and 50 sacks of slippers to the Region 1 Medical Center. **(PNA)**



Cambodia acts to save largest lake

By Xinhua News Agency
November 30, 2021

PHNOM PENH: Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen has ordered relevant authorities to launch a large-scale crackdown on illegal land grabs around the kingdom's largest freshwater lake — Tonle Sap — and to seize back all the encroached land.

In a recorded message to the public, the prime minister also ordered the arrest of any people or officials involved in the destruction of flooded forest around the lake for land possession.

The order came after a research report conducted by the Royal Academy of Cambodia found that the flooded forest around the lake had been cleared for land at a "worrying" rate.

"Such an anarchic act is unacceptable and intolerable," Hun Sen said. "I order the competent authorities to reclaim all of the encroached land within the boundary of the flooded forest surrounding the Tonle Sap Lake."

He said trees will be replanted on the reclaimed land.

According to a sub-decree issued in 2011, the boundary of the flooded forest around the lake was established in six provinces in the country with a total land area of over 647,000 hectares.

The Tonle Sap is the biggest lake in Cambodia and one of the largest lakes in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, according to the Asean Secretariat.

Its dimension changes depending on rainy and dry seasons, the Asean Secretariat said, adding that during the rainy season from June to October, the lake is filled up by water flowing in from the Mekong River, causing the lake to be as deep as 14 meters and the water surface to expand to around 10,000 square kilometers (sq km).

During the dry season from November to May, the water surface could shrink down to around 3,000 sq km, where the depth could be as low as 2 meters, as water from the lake flows back into the Mekong River, the secretariat said.

The surrounding forest near the lake is home to over 300 species of fish, wildlife and reptiles, it said, adding that more than 100 species of birds also use this area as their habitat.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/11/30/news/world/cambodia-acts-to-save-largest-lake/1824147>



Binabantayang LPA, posibleng pumasok sa loob ng bansa

By Angellic Jordan November 29, 2021 - 07:15 PM



DOST PAGASA Facebook photo

May tinututukang low pressure area (LPA) ang PAGASA sa labas ng Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).

Ayon kay PAGASA Weather Specialist Grace Castañeda, huling namataan ang sama ng panahon sa layong 1,745 kilometers Silangan ng Visayas dakong 3:00 ng hapon.

Posible aniyang maging bagyo ang LPA sa susunod na 36 oras.

Maari rin aniyang pumasok sa teritoryo ng bansa ang sama ng panahon at kapag pumasok sa bansa ay tatawagin itong #OdettePH.

Ayon pa kay Castañeda, pwede lumapit ang sama ng panahon sa kalupaan ng bansa sa Miyerkules o Huwebes.

Maari aniyang magdulot ang trough o dulong bahagi ng bagyo ng pag-ulan sa Eastern Visayas.

Sa ngayon, umiiral pa rin ang shearline sa dulong bahagi ng Hilagang Luzon.

Bunsod nito, makararanas aniya ng kalat-kalat na pag-ulan, pagkulong at pagkidlat sa Batanes at Cagayan.

Readmore: <https://radyo.inquirer.net/?p=305252#ixzz7De4i4Sh8>

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COVID-19 NEWS

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Total new cases at 16-month low

By [Sheila Crisostomo](#) (The Philippine Star)
- November 30, 2021 - 12:00am



Commuters queue for the carousel bus in Monumento, Caloocan on November 2, 2021.

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines yesterday logged its lowest single-day tally for new COVID-19 cases since July 2020 at 665 cases, data from the Department of Health (DOH) showed.

Based on the DOH case bulletin, there are 665 new cases of COVID-19, bringing the overall tally to 2,832,375.

This is the lowest since July 14, 2020 when 634 cases were documented.

Data showed there were 16,289 active cases, representing 0.6 percent of all cases.

The DOH said there were 141 new deaths, raising the death toll to 48,501. The case fatality rate is pegged at 1.71.

On the other hand, 993 COVID-19 patients recovered, bringing the number of recoveries to 2,767,585.



PH logs lowest one-day case count of 665

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor November 29, 2021, 4:32 pm



(File photo)

MANILA – The Department of Health (DOH) on Monday logged 665 new coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases, the country's lowest single-day case count for this year so far.

The lowest single-day tally of 634 new infections in the country was reported on July 14 last year.

In its daily Covid-19 bulletin, the DOH also reported 993 new recoveries that reduced the country's active cases to just 16,289 or a mere 0.6 percent of total infections since March last year.

Of the active cases, 48.1 percent are listed as mild, 6 percent asymptomatic, 6.6 percent critical, 15.6 percent severe, and 23.82 percent moderate.

The new infections increased the country's total cases to 2,831,807, including the 2,832,375 who recovered from the dreaded disease.

Meanwhile, the death toll rose to 48,501 with 141 new fatalities.

DOH data on November 27 showed that about 2.1 percent of 32,639 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

"About 10 duplicates were removed from the total case count, and, of these, 8 are recoveries and one is death. Also, 87 cases were found to have tested negative and have been removed from the total case count," it said. "Moreover, 129 cases that were previously tagged as recoveries were reclassified as deaths after final validation."

Two laboratories were operational on November 27 while three laboratories were not able to submit their data to the Covid-19 Document Repository System.

The five non-reporting laboratories contribute, on average, 0.3 percent of samples tested, and 0.5 percent of positive individuals based on data in the last 14 days.

To date, 27 percent of 3,800 intensive care unit beds, 25 percent of 20,100 isolation beds, 16 percent of 13,300 ward beds, and 17 percent of 3,100 ventilators are utilized by patients with Covid-19 nationwide.



PH logs lowest one-day case count of 665

Meanwhile, 27 percent of 1,300 intensive care unit beds, 22 percent of 4,700 isolation beds, 22 percent of 3,900 ward beds, and 19 percent of 1,000 ventilators dedicated to patients with Covid-19 are in use in Metro Manila. (*PNA*)



Metro Manila stays under Alert Level 2 amid Omicron threat



Published 9 hours ago
on November 29, 2021 09:30 PM
By [MJ Blancaflor @tribuneph1](#) [MJB](#)



Metro Manila will remain under Alert Level 2 until mid-December as the government rejected calls to further relax quarantine restrictions in the region amid the detection of a new Covid-19 variant dubbed Omicron.

The Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) extended for another two weeks the prevailing restrictions in the capital region, Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles announced Monday.

“This shall take effect from 1 to 15 December,” said Nograles, who is also acting presidential spokesperson.

Alert Level 2 has been in place in the National Capital Region since 5 November.

Under the scheme, the use of face masks remains mandatory while face shields are optional.

Restaurants are allowed to offer dine-in services, and personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas and hair salons, and fitness studios are permitted to operate in areas placed under Alert Level 2.

Tourist attractions, recreational venues, cinemas and movie houses, funfairs or kid amusement industries, and venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers are also allowed.



Metro Manila stays under Alert Level 2 amid Omicron threat

Business groups have been urging the government to allow the reopening of other establishments such as gaming areas and betting shops in the country, particularly in the capital region, which accounts for at least 40 percent of the Philippines' gross domestic product.

The said establishments are still barred to operate under Alert Level 2.

The government's decision to keep the existing restrictions in the capital region came after the discovery of the Covid-19 Omicron virus type, which was classified by the World Health Organization as a variant of concern.

Earlier in the day, Nograles assured the public that the government imposes Covid-19 measures with a "sense of urgency" to address the threat, as he urged the public to remain compliant with health protocols.

The Palace official appealed to Filipinos to continuously observe face mask wearing and physical distancing, especially during the holidays.

"During the holiday season, with restrictions easing, we know many of you plan to see loved ones and friends. So, we appeal to everyone: Please remain vigilant," said Nograles.

Noting that the entry of the Omicron variant is inevitable, he also called on mayors and village officials to boost their efforts on active case finding, contact tracing, and isolating their infected residents.

"The local government units and the Department of the Interior and Local Government are directed to ensure strict implementation and adherence to the prevention, detection, isolation, treatment, and reintegration strategies," Nograles said.

While the Omicron raised concerns worldwide for possibly causing yet another deadly infection surge, he said the Covid-19 protocols enforced by the government remain effective in reducing risks of virus spread.

He also said that the government had acted swiftly to prevent the entry of the Omicron variant, including the imposition of a travel ban on countries where the virus type was first discovered.

"Yes, we are acting with a sense of urgency. Our task force immediately convened and consulted with our local experts," Nograles said.

The Department of Health, the official added, had been instructed to ensure that the country's health system capacity is prepared to address the possible increase of Covid-19 cases.

He also said that the pandemic task force's sub-technical working group on data analytics had been directed to craft models or projections that would show potential impact of the Omicron variant on prevailing health measures in the country.

First reported in South Africa, Omicron was said to be the Covid-19 virus type with the most number of mutations at present and experts fear that it could be resistant to the vaccines that have now been rolled out worldwide.



Metro Manila stays under Alert Level 2 amid Omicron threat

Nations around the world imposed travel bans on South Africa and neighboring countries following its discovery.

Philippine authorities have so far detected 2.83 million Covid-19 infections nationwide, of which 1.7 percent or 48,500 have been fatal.



Palace: Face shields still voluntary but recommended

By [Alexis Romero](#)(Philstar.com)
- November 29, 2021 - 4:15pm



Commuters sport face shields as they walk past an LRT Line 1 coach with mask and face shield promotional ads in Manila on Wednesday (November 3, 2021).

MANILA, Philippines — The policy on the use of face shields stays for now but Malacañang is encouraging the public to wear the protective gear as an additional safeguard against COVID-19, including its new Omicron variant.

The government has relaxed its rules on the wearing of face shields on top of face masks, making it mandatory only in areas under granular lockdowns, those under the most stringent Alert Level 5, and healthcare and quarantine facilities.

Officials have since clarified that commercial establishments and employers have the option to require the use of face shields in their respective premises.

National Task Force Against COVID-19 chief implementer Carlito Galvez, Jr. on Sunday said the government would look into the possible reimposition of the face shield requirement, citing the need to protect the public against the Omicron variant.

"Well as it stands, it is still the same. The latest resolution of the IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases) states that it (use of face shield) is mandatory in healthcare (facilities) and in other settings, it is voluntary," acting presidential spokesman Karlo Nograles said at a press briefing.

"But if we ask the experts, of course it is an added layer of protection. So while it is voluntary, of course — personally, I would like to encourage our countrymen, if they can wear face shields, let us wear face shields as an additional protection," he added.



Palace: Face shields still voluntary but recommended

At present, the wearing of face shields on top of face masks is voluntary in areas that are under Alert Levels 1, 2 and 3. For Alert Level 4 areas, local governments and private establishments have the discretion to mandate the use of face shields.

Nograles, also the IATF's spokesman, reminded the public to continue observing minimum health protocols like the wearing of face masks, frequent handwashing, and physical distancing. He also urged Filipinos to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

The government has updated its travel protocols to prevent the entry of the Omicron variant first reported in South Africa. It has banned inbound flights from countries that have reported cases of the Omicron variant namely South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Eswatini, Mozambique, Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium and Italy.

The Philippines has also suspended a policy allowing fully-vaccinated nationals of non-visa-required "green" list countries to enter the Philippines.



Revaccination effectively protects vs. Omicron: White House

November 29, 2021, 1:51 pm



WASHINGTON – Revaccination provides the most reliable protection against the Omicron coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) variant, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Chief Medical Advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci told US President Joe Biden in a briefing.

"Dr. Fauci and members of the Covid Response Team updated the President on the latest developments related to the Omicron variant. Dr. Fauci informed the President that while it will take approximately two more weeks to have more definitive information on the transmissibility, severity, and other characteristics of the variant, he continues to believe that existing vaccines are likely to provide a degree of protection against severe cases of Covid. Dr. Fauci also reiterated that boosters for fully vaccinated individuals provide the strongest available protection from COVID," a statement published on the White House website said on Monday.

The statement said the Covid Response Team recommended that "all vaccinated adults were to get a booster shot as soon as possible."

The document notes that US residents are eligible for a booster if they were fully inoculated over six months ago with Pfizer and Moderna, or two months ago or more with Johnson & Johnson.

"Importantly, those adults and children who are not yet fully vaccinated should get vaccinated immediately," the White House said.

On November 29, Biden will make a statement regarding the situation with the Omicron variant and the necessary measures amid the spread of the infection.



Revaccination effectively protects vs. Omicron: White House

According to the Washington Post, the Biden administration is going to focus on revaccinating the population, naming it a key measure to counter the Omicron variant.

Some senior US health officials discussed the latest data on the new Covid-19 variant with the South African scientists on Sunday.

The US side was told it was too early to claim whether Omicron was more transmissible than Delta.

The media outlet said the experts will get more accurate data on the efficiency of the existing vaccines against the Omicron variant in a week. *(TASS)*



[Beware the Omicron!](#)

NOV 29, 2021, 1:08 PM



Opinyon News Team
News Reporter

IT SEEMS benign when it was first named B.1.1.529, this newly discovered variant of the coronavirus 2019 that causes the disease called COVID-19.

But when the World Health Organization (WHO) ruled that it qualifies to be a "variant of concern," and forthwith renamed it Omicron, the thing immediately took on a more menacing character.

From the initial shock, the world has recovered with resolve to fight this latest manifestation of the evil pandemic, which was first detected in southern Africa.

The wires reported that this classification declares Omicron as one of the most problematic of COVID-19 variants, similar to the dominant Delta, and much more deadly than the old variants called Alpha, Beta and Gamma.

The United Kingdom and Israel were the first countries to ban inbound travel from South Africa. In the Philippines, the Inter-Agency Task Force immediately raised the red flag and prohibited inbound travel from these countries: South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Eswatini and Mozambique.

It is sad that the news about Omicron came at a time when the Philippines has almost beaten COVID-19, with fewer daily infections being reported as the vaccination program continues.

In a statement, the WHO said, "based on the evidence presented indicative of a detrimental change in Covid-19 epidemiology... the WHO has designated B.1.1.529 as a variant of concern (VOC), named Omicron."

The United Nations health agency said it could take several weeks to complete studies of Omicron to see if there are any changes in transmissibility, severity or implications for Covid vaccines, tests and treatments.

The classification ruling came after a quickly-assembled virtual meeting of the WHO's Technical Advisory Group on SARS-CoV-2 Virus Evolution. "This variant has a large number of mutations, some of which are concerning," the WHO said, citing weird characteristics that pose a lot of problems. The WHO noted that the first known confirmed Omicron infection was from a specimen gotten last Nov. 9.

Scientists at the WHO were quick to note that all viruses mutate over time, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus which causes Covid-19 disease.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/168722493140749/posts/4873049412708010/?app=fbl>



AKSYONG MABILIS VS OMICRON VARIANT



November 29, 2021 @ 2:24 PM 15 hours ago

MAGANDA ang aksyon ng pamahalaang Duterte na sumabay sa ibang mga bansa sa pagharang sa pagkalat ng bago at delikadong Omicron variant ng coronavirus disease-19.

Unang nadiskubre ang Omicron variant na 500 porsyento umanong mas nakahahawa kumpara sa Delta variant sa bansang Botswana o sa South Africa na higit ngayong biktima.

Kabilang sa mga bansang nagsara ng biyahe sa mga nagmumula sa ilang bansa sa Africa ang United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany at iba pang mga bansa sa Europa, United States at Canada.

Sa Asya, nauna ang Singapore na sinundan ng Hong Kong at Pilipinas at sa Gitnang Silangan, nauna ang Israel na sinundan ng Saudi Arabia.

Bukod sa South Africa at Botswana, bawal na ring pumasok sa Pinas ang mga nanggagaling sa mga bansang Namibia, Zimbabwe, Eswatini o Swaziland, Lesotho at Mozambique at sa huli, inirekomenda ng Department of Health na isama na ang Hong Kong dahil may kaso na rin ito

ANG OMICRON

Unang naobserbata ang Omicron sa Botswana sa ikalawang linggo ng buwang ito at sumunod na nakita ito sa South Africa.

Makaraan ang pagsusuri ng South Africa, ipinaalam nila ito sa World Health Organization at sa loob lang ng dalawang araw, idineklara na itong “variant of concern.”



AKSYONG MABILIS VS OMICRON VARIANT

'Yun bang === nakahahawa, nakalilikha ng matinding sakit sa COVID-19 at nakamamatay, nakahihina ng immune system at bisa ng bakuna, kasama na ang mga gamot at pagtukoy sa sakit.

Ayon sa mga ulat, mga Bro, may 50 itong mutation o bagong anyo, kabilang na ang 32 na kumakapit at pumapasok sa selula o kalamnan ng tao na ating ikasasakit sa COVID-19.

Gaya ng unang Beta variant na galing sa South Africa, humahalo rin ang Omicron sa virus ng may human-immuno virus o HIV kaya pinangangambahang delikado ang kalagayan ng nasa 8.2 milyong may HIV.

BAKUNADO 'DI SINASANTO

Lumalabas ding hindi sinasanto ng Omicron ang mga doble bakunado sa COVID-19 o kahit ang mga booster shot.

Kaya naman, ganoon na lang kabilis na magsara ng pintuan ang mga bansa laban sa Omicron at mga bansang pinanggagalingan nito at dinadapuan na rin gaya ng Hong Kong, Israel, Belgium, Germany at UK.

Ispesyal na tanong: Paano kung mahawa ang mahigit 70,000 may HIV sa mahal kong Pinas na peborit na yariin ng Beta at Omicron variant?

MAGPABAKUNA LAHAT; HEALTH PROTOCOL SUNDIN

Talagang hindi pa tapos ang problema sa COVID-19 sa buong mundo at ang pagpapabakuna ang pinakamabisa ngayong panlaban dito na kinakambalan ng pagsunod sa mga health protocol.

Kung saka-sakali na makarating sa bansa ang Omicron, kahit papaano mayroon tayong pananggalang laban dito kahit na alanganin lahat.

Pinakamainam na iwasan ang paggigiit ng indibiduwal na karapatan at interes laban sa bakuna at pagsunod sa health protocol.

Sa halip, isipin natin ang sambayanang Pilipino na makalalaya lang sa pandemya kung manatiling malusog lahat at hindi maospital at mamatay sa COVID-19 ang marami.



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 625

NOBYEMBRE 29, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

0.6%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
16,289

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

97.7%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,767,585

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.71%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
48,501

MGA BAGONG KASO **665**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **993**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **141**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,832,375**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING NOBYEMBRE 27

DATOS NGAYONG NOBYEMBRE 29
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG NOBYEMBRE 27

2.1%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

32,639

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS
54.0%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

D UMISTANSYA NG
ISANG METRO AT LIMITAHAN
ANG PISIKAL NA
INTERAKSYON SA IBA

KABUANG PILIPINAS PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (3.8K TOTAL BEDS)
 27% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.1K TOTAL BEDS)
 25% Utilized

WARD BEDS (13.3K TOTAL BEDS)
 16% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
 17% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.3K TOTAL BEDS)
 27% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.7K TOTAL BEDS)
 22% Utilized

WARD BEDS (3.9K TOTAL BEDS)
 22% Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)
 19% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

Mild 48.1

6.0% Asymptomatic

6.6% Critical

15.6% Severe

23.82% Moderate



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Makiisa sa nangyayaring **Bayanihan Bakunahan** ngayon sa iba't ibang lugar sa Pilipinas. Sa paglabas sa ating kanya-kayang tahanan, manatiling nakasuot ang ating face mask, umiwas sa mga matataong lugar, at ugaliing gumamit ng alkohol o maghugas ng kamay. Ang mga alituntuning ito ay patuloy na magbibigay sa atin ng proteksyon laban sa COVID-19 kung susundin ng maayos. Kasabay nito ang ating pagiging alisto sa mga sintomas. Sa oras na makaramdam ay agad makipag-ugnayan sa **BHERTS** o sa **One COVID Referral Center** na maabot sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333**, para sa karampatang gabay.

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



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

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



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?

I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH

MESSANGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVID PH: kontracovid.ph



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

O Gamiting ang WEBAPP

at pumunta sa Staysafe.ph

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

doh.gov.ph

(02) 894-COVID / 1555

30 NOVEMBER 2021, Tuesday



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



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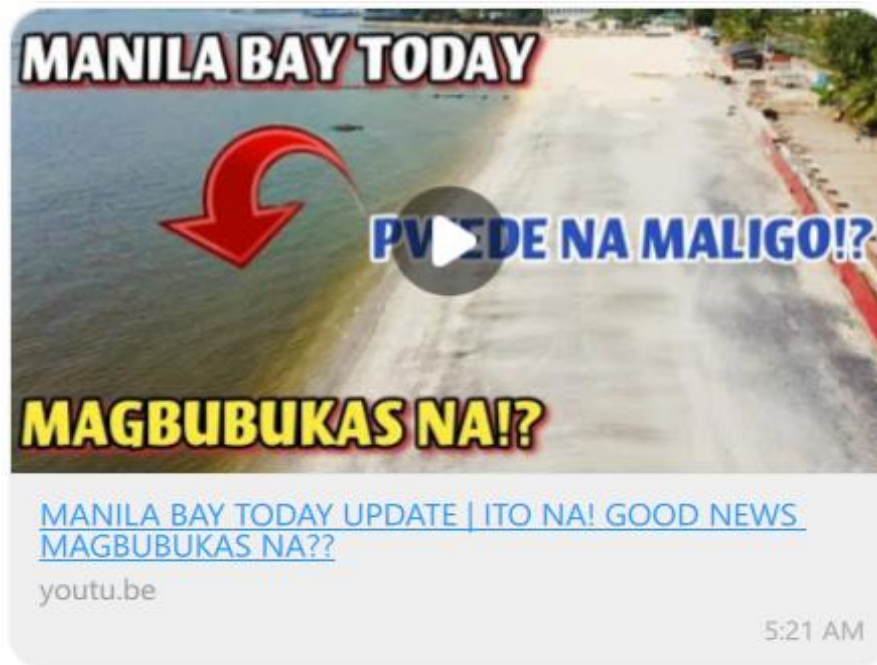
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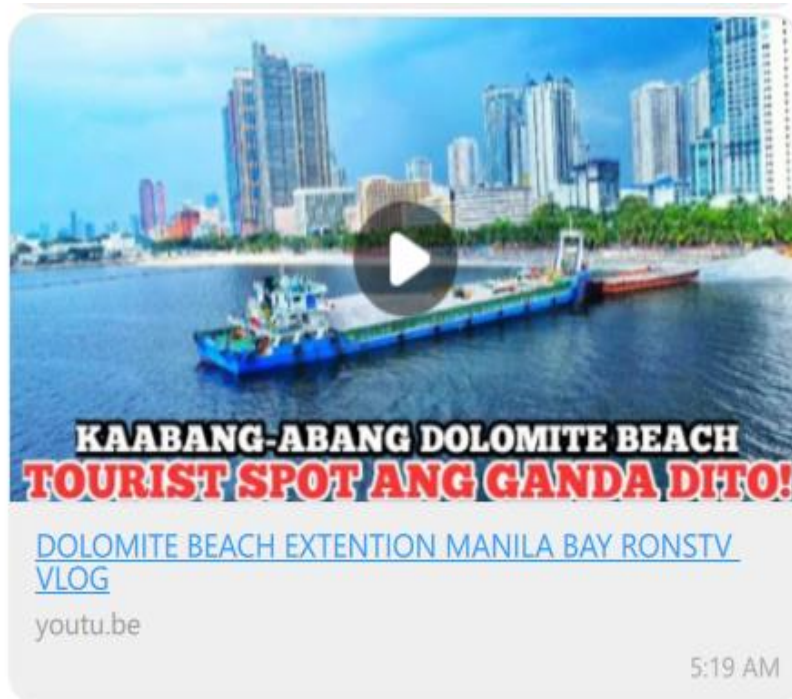
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