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NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



15 illegal miners inaresto ng DENR; quarrying equipment nasabat sa Taal Volcano protected area



December 6, 2021 @ 6:24 PM 13 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Inaresto ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)- Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) ang 15 illegal miners na umano'y gumagawa ng illegal quarrying operations noong Nobyembre 24 matapos maipanalò ang kaso laban sa illegal miners na nagsasagawa ng operasyon sa Taal Volcano Protected Area Landscape noong Oktubre.

Sa press release ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, ang mga minero na nagsasagawa ng ipinagbabawal na aktibidad sa parehas na lugar ay nangangahulugan na hindi natatakot ang mga ito sa paglabag sa environmental laws at mga parusang kaakibat nito.

“These illegal quarrying operations cannot be stopped if we remain complacent with enforcement operations. This is the reason why the DENR has bolstered training for our enforcement personnel, and more reasons why the legislative arm of the government should expedite the Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau (EPEB) Bill,” sabi ni Cimatu.

Ayon sa DENR 15 illegal miners na naaresto dahil na rin sa isinagawang DENR enforcement operations ang kasalukuyang dumadaan sa legal procedures dahil sa paglabag sa Republic Act (RA) 11038 o ang Expanded National Integrated Protected Area Systems (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018, RA 7942 o ang Philippine Mining Act of 1995, Presidential Decree 705 o ang Revised Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines at RA 9275 o ang Clean Water Act.

Kaugnay nito nakumpiska sa isinagawang operasyon ang tatlong backhoe, dalawang screeners na ginagamit sa paghihiwalay ng liberated at extracted sand at gravel materials at truck na may kargang 127 board feet ng round logs at 122.83 board feet ng lumber.

Ayon sa ulat nadiskubre din ng ELEPS operatives na ang lugar ay ginagamit din bilang crude “firing range” na may blue barrels na naglalaman ng gravel at sand na nagsisilbing “target papers.” Nakita rin ang ilang slugs ng bala ng baril sa lugar.

Samantala kaugnay nito tiniyak naman ni DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement Benito Antonio de Leon na gagawin ng ELEPS team ang lahat ng kanilang magagawa upang makulong ang mga nagkasala matapos ang isinagawang operasyon. **Santi Celario**

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/15-illegal-miners-inaresto-ng-denr-quarrying-equipment-nasabat-sa-taal-volcano-protected-area/>



ENVIRONMENT

More illegal miners inside Taal Volcano nabbed

DEC 6, 2021, 4:58 PM

Santiago Celario
Writer

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu pointed out that miners who have been doing the same prohibited activities in the same area mean that "they remain unafraid of the environmental laws and their corresponding penalties."

At least fifteen more miners operating illegally inside the Taal Volcano Protected Area Landscape were nabbed by officers of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) last November 24.

During the operation, ELEPS officers confiscated from the miners three backhoes, two screeners used to segregate and extracted sand and gravel materials, and a truck loaded with 127 board feet of round logs and 122.83 board feet of lumber.

ELEPS operatives also discovered that the area was used as a crude "firing range" with blue barrels filled with gravel and sand serving as "target papers."

Bullet slugs were also found in the area.

The miners are currently undergoing legal procedures in violation of Republic Act No. 11038 (Expanded National Integrated Protected Area Systems Act of 2018), Republic Act No. 7942 (Philippine Mining Act of 1995), Presidential Decree 705 (Revised Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines), and Republic Act No. 9275 (Clean Water Act).

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu pointed out that miners who have been doing the same prohibited activities in the same area mean that "they remain unafraid of the environmental laws and their corresponding penalties."

"These illegal quarrying operations cannot be stopped if we remain complacent with enforcement operations. This is the reason why the DENR has bolstered training for our enforcement personnel, and more reasons why the legislative arm of the government should expedite the Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau (EPEB) Bill," Cimatu said.

Source: <https://opinyon.net/national/more-illegal-miners-inside-taal-volcano-nabbed?fbclid=IwAR32EofcZAJXcNFJ91qOoyJ4yeMGDiEyP0hyjjL5ifhYuU3fK4EGk7ePf8c>



Illegal quarrying in Taal foiled

By ... -December 7, 2021

After winning a case against illegal miners operating within the Taal Volcano protected area landscape last October, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) arrested another set of illegal quarrying operators in the same area last November 24.

“These illegal quarrying operations cannot be stopped if we remain complacent with enforcement operations. This is the reason why the DENR has bolstered training for our enforcement personnel and more reasons why the legislative arm of the government should expedite the Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau (EPEB) Bill,” said DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, in a statement.

The DENR said 15 illegal miners were apprehended and are currently undergoing legal procedures for violating the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area Systems Act of 2018, the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, The Revised Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines, and the Clean Water Act.

Confiscated during the operations were three backhoes, two screeners used to define and segregate the liberated and extracted sand and gravel materials as well as a truck loaded with 127 board feet of round logs and 122.83 board feet of lumber.

The DENR said its operatives also discovered the area was used as a crude firing range with blue barrels filled with gravel and sand serving as target papers . Bullet slugs were also found in the area.

Last October, the DENR won the case against illegal miners apprehended in the area last 2019.

In a two-page decision, the 5th Municipal Circuit Trial Court in Talisay-Laurel, Batangas province has found six individuals guilty of illegal quarrying and extraction of 14,430 cubic meters of palanas minerals.

Cimatu said that the palanas minerals recovered had an estimated value of P2.46 million.

The apprehended individuals were ordered to pay a fine of P10,000 each with subsidiary imprisonment in case of insolvency.

The DENR said once EPEB bill becomes a law, more stringent penalties can be imposed. –
Jed Macapagal



15 Taal Volcano illegal miners arrested

Published December 6, 2021, 4:17 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) announced on Monday, Dec. 6, the arrest of 15 illegal miners inside the Taal Volcano protected area.

In a statement, the DENR said the 15 individuals were apprehended for violating Republic Act (RA) No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area Systems (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018, RA 7942 or the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, Presidential Decree 705 or The Revised Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines, and RA 9275 or the Clean Water Act.

The arrest happened on Nov. 24 after DENR's Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) held an anti-illegal quarrying operation in the area, where the agency also caught illegal miners a month prior.

For DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu, the new set of arrested individuals proved that illegal miners "remain unafraid of the environmental laws and their corresponding penalties."

"These illegal quarrying operations cannot be stopped if we remain complacent with enforcement operations. This is the reason why the DENR has bolstered training for our enforcement personnel, and more reasons why the legislative arm of the government should expedite the Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau (EPEB) Bill," he said.

DENR said confiscated during the operations were three backhoes; two screeners, which were used to define and segregate the liberated and extracted sand and gravel materials; and a truck loaded with 127 board feet of round logs and 122.83 board feet of lumber.

It added that ELEPS operatives also discovered that the area was used as a crude "firing range" with blue barrels filled with gravel and sand serving as "target papers." Bullet slugs were also found in the area.

DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement Benito Antonio De Leon gave assurance that ELEPS team "will do their best to put the offenders in jail after this operation."

"We have seen that the ELEPS and its partner agencies have truly developed their skills in apprehending erring quarrying personnel, thanks to the support of Secretary Cimatu and the DENR's Human Resource and Development Service during their special course in the Environment and Natural Resources Academy," he said.



15 ILLEGAL MINERS DINAMPOT SA TAAL VOLCANO PROTECTED AREA

December 6, 2021 Admin



DINAKIP ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)- Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) ang 15 minero na umano’y gumagawa ng ‘illegal quarrying operations’ sa Taal Volcano Protected Area Landscape, batay sa ulat nitong Lunes.

Ayon kay DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu, ang mga minero na nagsasagawa ng ipinagbabawal na aktibidad sa parehas na lugar ay nangangahulugan na hindi natatakot ang mga ito sa paglabag sa environmental laws at mga parusang kaakibat nito.

“These illegal quarrying operations cannot be stopped if we remain complacent with enforcement operations. This is the reason why the DENR has bolstered training for our enforcement personnel, and more reasons why the legislative arm of the government should expedite the Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau (EPEB) Bill,” ani Cimatu.

Nakumpiska sa mga minero ang tatlong backhoe, dalawang screeners na ginagamit sa paghiwalay ng liberated at extracted sand at gravel materials at truck na may kargang 127 board feet ng round logs at 122.83 board feet ng lumber.

Siniguro naman ni DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement Benito Antonio de Leon na gagawin ng ELEPS team ang lahat ng kanilang magagawa upang makulong ang mga nagkasala matapos ang isinagawang operasyon. **BENJIE GOMEZ**



15 ilegal na minero nabuko sa Taal

By Abante Tonite — Last updated Dec 6, 2021

METRO



Labinlimang ilegal na minero ang naaresto ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) habang nasabat ang kanilang mga quarrying equipment sa Taal Volcano protected area.

Matapos maipanalo ang kaso laban sa illegal miners na nagsasagawa ng operasyon sa Taal Volcano Protected Area Landscape noong Oktubre, muling nakaaresto ang DENR, sa pamamagitan ng Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS), ng panibagong grupo na gumagawa ng illegal quarrying operations sa parehas na lugar noong Nobyembre 24.

Nasa 15 illegal miner na naaresto ng ELEPS ang nahaharap sa mga kasong paglabag sa Expanded National Integrated Protected Area Systems Act, Philippine Mining Act, Revised Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines, at Clean Water Act.

Nakumpiska sa operasyon ang tatlong backhoe, dalawang screener na ginagamit sa paghihiwalay ng liberated at extracted sand at gravel materials, at truck na may kargang 127 board feet ng troso at 122.83 board feet ng tabla.

Nadiskubre rin na ginagamit ang lugar bilang firing range, kung saan nakita ang ilang slugs ng bala ng baril. (Riz Dominguez)

Source: <https://tonite.abante.com.ph/15-ilegal-na-minero-nabuko-sa-taal/>

Quarrying in Talisay suspended

By: Morexette Marie Erram - Multimedia Reporter - CDN Digital|December 06,2021 - 09:26 PM



Talisay City Mayor Gerald Anthony "Samsam" Gullas says that quarrying operations in the city has been suspended until the city government can come up with a traffic plan to regulate and guide traffic flow of dump trucks hauling minerals to and from the quarrying sites. | CDN Digital file photo

CEBU CITY, Philippines — The Cebu Provincial government on Monday, December 6, ordered the suspension of quarrying operations in Talisay City.

This is after the Talisay City government plans to create a traffic plan to regulate and guide the traffic flow of dump trucks hauling minerals to and from quarrying sites in the city.

Mayor Gerald Anthony "Samsam" Gullas, on social media, said the traffic plan would help prevent similar tragedies like the one that happened in Barangay Lawaan 3 last December 3.

"The City will create a committee that will meet with the stakeholders involved for the traffic plan and policies concerning the hauling of minerals or those covered by the issuance of a waste disposal permit issued by PENRO (Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office)," said Gullas.

According to Gullas, the committee will consist of the City Administrator, City Legal Officer, Business Process and Licensing Office (BPLO) head, heads of the City of Talisay – Traffic Operations and Development Authority (CT-TODA) and the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (LDRRMO), city councilors namely heading committees on traffic, laws; and environment and natural resources.

The mayor said the committee, among its other tasks, would review the city's existing traffic code.

He also said he was the one, who made a request before the Provincial Government to order quarrying sites to cease their operations momentarily.

"As regards to quarry, the authority of allowing them to operate comes from our PENRO at Capitol, not from the city government. But due to growing concerns, I met with Gov. Gwen (Garcia) to request PENRO to suspend quarry activities in Talisay City," said Gullas.

At least five people died in the collision that involved two dump trucks, an L300 van, a modern jeep and two motorcycles along N. Bacalso Ave. in Barangay Lawaan 3, Talisay City last December 3.



Initial findings from investigators showed that the driver of the dumptruck that crashed onto the other five vehicles lost control.

The dump truck was carrying minerals from a quarrying site in one of the mountain barangays in Talisay City.

On the other hand, Gullas defended CT-TODA amid criticisms and, at the same time, hit back at critics by accusing them of politicizing the tragedy.

“First of all, I’m saddened by what happened last Friday. I’m sad that people have died. I’m sad families lost loved ones that day. Again, my condolences to the bereaved families and my prayers to all still in the hospital,” Gullas said.

“I’m also disappointed that people politicized the situation and used the deaths of the accident as political leverage...Nonetheless, our CT-TODA has done a good job in implementing our traffic laws and it will continue to do so,” he added.



SC affirms constitutionality of GMA's order vs mining in Pinatubo-hit areas

BY JOEL R. SAN JUAN DECEMBER 6, 2021

THE Supreme Court (SC) has affirmed the constitutionality of Executive Order (EO) 224 issued by former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, which scales down the extraction and disposition of sand, gravel and lahar deposits in provinces affected by Mt. Pinatubo's eruption in 1991.

In a 24-page decision released to the public last December 2, the Court en banc denied the petition filed by the provincial government of Pampanga assailing the decision of the Court of Appeals issued on April 24, 2010, which reversed the lower court's decision declaring EO 224 invalid and unconstitutional.

The petition argued that EO 224 violated the principle of local government autonomy under the Local Government Code (LGC). It also argued that the order was an invalid exercise of presidential control and not just general supervision. Other arguments were that EO 224 was a violation of the equal protection clause and was a form of executive lawmaking.

However, the Court held that the issuance of EO 224 was a valid exercise of the President's ordinance-making prerogative, which forms part of the power of executive control.

It added that the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 is an environmental protection law, which "justifies the State's supervision, control and review of the concerned local government units' compliance with and enforcement of existing regulations on quarrying-related activities."

Furthermore, the SC noted that the Philippine Mining Act amended the LGC's provisions by limiting the provincial government's authority to issue permits only to quarry applications covering areas less than five hectares.

The Court also dismissed the claim of the petitioner that the creation of a task force under EO 224 to ensure compliance of all permit holders with the terms and conditions of their permits disrespected the constitutionally-mandated fiscal autonomy of local government units (LGUs).

Under Section 138 of the Local Government Code, a province has the power to levy and collect not more than 10 percent of the fair market value of the quarry resources extracted from its territorial jurisdiction.

On the other hand, Section 4 of EO 224 gave the task force the following powers: to collect applicable quarry taxes, fees and charges; to ensure that proper taxes and fees are paid before any delivery receipt is issued; to ensure that the appropriate shares of the concerned local government units are fully and timely remitted; and, to render an accounting with the environment secretary.

The SC pointed out there is nothing in the wording of Section 4 that suggests that the task force exercises control over the provincial government.

It added that EO 224 also doesn't authorize the task force to impose its own set of rules or regulations over the local government unit when it comes to the collection of quarry taxes, fees and charges.



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Plastic, palit bigas na

DEC 6, 2021, 1:46 PM

Jeanelle Abaricia
Writer

ANG bayan ng Pagbilao sa Quezon, tulad ng iba pang mga bayan, ay may dalawang suliranin. Una ay ang kahirapan ng mga mamamayan. Ikalawa ay ang pagkawasak ng dati'y mayaman at malinis na kalikasan.

Alam ni Mayor Shierre Palicpic ang dalawang problemang ito, kaya naman suportado niya ang naisip na ideya ng kanilang Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO) -- ang programang "Plastic Palit Bigas" sa bayang ito.

Ang totoo ay hindi na talagang bago ang proyekto. Ginawa na ito ni Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso sa Maynila. At isinagawa na rin ito ng ilang mga opisyal sa iba't ibang bayan na nauna sa kanya.

Layunin ng naturang programa sa Pagbilao na itaas ang kamalayan sa wastong pamamahala ng 'solid waste' at kung paano ito makatutulong sa pangangalaga sa ating kapaligiran.

Ang isang kilong plastic (gaya ng balat ng shampoo, sabon, sirsirya at iba pang kauri nito) ay maaaring ipagpalit sa isang kilong bigas.

Hindi naman maaaring ipagpalit ang mga sando bag, transparent na plastic tulad ng 8 x 11 at matitigas na plastic gaya naman ng mga laruan, crates at iba pa na kagaya nito.

Ang bawat barangay ay may nakalaang apat na sakong bigas o 200 kilograms, at limitado naman sa limang kilo ang maaaring ipagpalit sa bawat tao.

Sa mga nagnanais maging kabahagi ng Plastic Palit Bigas Program, maaring makipag-ugnayan sa inyong mga barangay o magtungo sa tanggapan ng MENRO na matatagpuan sa Municipal Public Market.

Isang magandang proyekto ito para kahit papaano ay malunasan ang problema sa kahirapan at sa kalikasan.

Source: <https://opinyon.net/national/plastic-palit-bigas-na?fbclid=IwAR30JQJybwMDNkVyo799N-ApXmY99ZHosfTeuwvhxodEbCJDb5KmKZJRXhI>



MPTC eyes green financing for CALAX

Richmond Mercurio - The Philippine Star December 7, 2021 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — Metro Pacific Tollways Corp. (MPTC) is aiming to be the first in the country to tap green financing for a toll road project.

MPTC chief finance officer and senior executive sponsor for sustainability Christopher Lizo said the company is planning to avail of green financing over the medium term for the Cavite–Laguna Expressway (CALAX) project.

“We have financing in place already for the completion of CALAX. The idea is at some point to consider green financing to refinance our loans in CALAX,” Lizo said in a virtual briefing yesterday.

“Of course with green financing comes the obligation to keep or maintain certain standards in terms of our commitment to make the road sustainable. So it’s a medium term aspiration. It’s not something we can do tomorrow,” he said.

Lizo said MPTC would have to complete first the construction of CALAX, a 45-kilometer high-speed road network connecting the two provinces of Cavite and Laguna.

“Second, we need to meet our sustainability objectives, and when we are ready we will consider looking at green financing to refinance our existing loans. It’s a medium term aspiration. All of our sustainability programs have to be in place first,” he said.

MPTC subsidiary Metro Pacific Tollways South Management Corp. yesterday signed a partnership agreement with the United States Agency for International Development’s Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans and Landscapes (SIBOL) project to promote its sustainability efforts to turn CALAX into a “green highway.”

Through the partnership, MPT South and USAID SIBOL, a natural resources management and biodiversity conservation project, will collaborate on a biodiversity program that will improve natural resources management.

These include tree planting activities to be undertaken in CALAX, advanced science-based decision making, fostering community engagement and promoting good environmental practices, and transforming CALAX’s biodiversity program as an income-generating project of communities.

“We are grateful to USAID SIBOL for allowing us to tap into their pool of knowledge and expertise so that we can make science-based and nature-centered decisions as we move toward our goal of turning CALAX into a green highway,” MPT South president and general manager Roberto Bontia said.

The agreement with MPT South is in line with USAID SIBOL’s goal of improving biodiversity conservation by working toward voluntary industry standards and replicating the rewilding model in similar projects.

“Protecting the environment, natural resources, and ensuring their capacities to sustain life for generations to come should be a collective effort. That is why we are grateful for this partnership with MPTC as it speaks of the goodwill of the private sector in collaborating with other stakeholders and taking tangible steps to promote environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and climate resiliency in the Philippines,” USAID SIBOL chief of party Ernesto Guiang said.

The P52.5 billion CALAX targets to serve around 45,000 motorists upon its full completion by 2023. Scheduled for completion by the third quarter of next year is the CALAX Cavite segment.

The expressway currently operates from Binan, Laguna up to the east of Silang, Cavite.



“We want to make CALAX as the pioneer in terms of doing green financing here in the country. It’s something we think we can do in the next three years as we complete CALAX. So all of these initiatives obviously contribute to our aspiration to have the very first green financing activity here in the country for a toll road project,” Lizo said.



Philippine Eagle Center welcomes 29th chick

Published December 6, 2021 7:27pm



Photo: Philippine Eagle Foundation/Twitter

The Philippine Eagle Center has welcomed a 29th chick, thanks to eagle parents Ariela and MVP Matatag.

On Twitter, Monday, the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) announced that Chick No. 29 hatched last December 4 at 1:16 p.m. It arrived 25 hours and 13 minutes after it first poked its beak out of the egg.

"This is actually the fastest pip-to-hatch record in our breeding program. This chick couldn't wait to say hello to the world," PEF said.

PEF's Conservation Breeding program started in 1987 and is aimed at helping Philippine eagles produce more of its kind as they become endangered.





According to PEF's [website](#), the Philippine Eagle is listed as critically endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) with an estimated number of only 400 pairs left in the wild.

Welcome to the world, Philippine Eagle Chick No. 29!

—**Franchesca Viernes/MGP, GMA News**

Source: https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/lifestyle/content/813531/philippine-eagle-center-welcomes-29th-chick/story/?utm_source=GMAnews&utm_medium=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR2J3Bn8_HkEQh8Qt8JbjsG4ePoiAs4Hhvd6CRiSuB2DuK37jnsPkrHAZ9Q



OpinYon 8

20h · 🌐

LOOK: A wounded owl was spotted in Barangay Busali, Biliran town in Biliran Island. Concerned citizens are trying to get hold of authorities for the bird to receive proper treatment and secure its safety.

#biliranisland #opinyon8news #opinyonnews





Five misconceptions about climate-related risks

BY **KPMG PERSPECTIVES** DECEMBER 6, 2021



CLIMATE change is a hot topic; not only for citizens, but also for the corporate world.

The Paris Agreement, and growing public and regulatory pressure, brought the matter to the top of the corporate agenda. Companies understand that managing the risks and opportunities arising from climate change now is crucial to becoming future-proof.

However, this is not yet a majority.

Misconceptions

OUR company will not be hit by climate-related risks. In fact, many companies have already been affected by the impact of climate change. More frequent and severe weather events are damaging infrastructure and disrupting supply chains.

The transition to a lower-carbon economy comes with new policies, regulations and rapid changes to market dynamics, with consequences for companies in different sectors. Some oil and gas companies are already facing lawsuits over their contributions to climate change. In addition, some companies, like the chemical multinational company BASF, already faced a financial damage of EUR 250 million due to extreme drought. The drought affected the water level in the Rhine river so badly that ships couldn't navigate the river and BASF couldn't use the river as a source of cooling water for chemical reactors.

Our company already has a sustainability plan. It is sometimes believed that having a sustainability plan and a net-zero target means the company is prepared for climate-related risks. This could be true if companies are active in a carbon-intensive industry, like oil and gas. Decreasing their emissions would not only be the right thing to do for society, their reputation and the reputation of their sector, it would also reduce the risk of having to pay higher operating costs as a consequence of a future carbon price or tax.

Our risk management department looks at all risks. These challenges make traditional risk management inadequate. Risk managers traditionally look at the likelihood and impact of an identified risk. Scenario analysis, on the other hand, can be considered a form of risk management, but it has distinctly different characteristics, especially regarding its long-term outlook (more than 10 years) and acknowledgement of the impact of volatile events. Scenario analysis allows companies to understand the climate-related risks relevant to their business and how they may evolve over time.

Climate change: we'll see it when we get there. Companies don't only need to measure their exposure to climate-related risks and subsequently manage them, but also incorporate them in their strategic plans. Failure to do so could undermine the sustainability and resilience of their business. If, as a company, you don't make a decision about climate change, climate change will make the decision for you.



Taking actions on climate change only cost money. Let's be clear: mitigating risks will indeed cost money but failing to act will be even more expensive in the future. The current debate however sometimes focuses too much on the risks. Not everybody sees the opportunities that will arise: innovation and technology development, new products, retaining talent and being seen as a leader.

Acting now to prepare your company for climate change will definitely pay off in the future. It will not only help your company to unlock new market opportunities and create lasting commercial advantages, it will also help avoiding potentially catastrophic climate change in the second half of the century.

The excerpt was taken from the KPMG Thought Leadership publication entitled "Five misconceptions about climate-related risks."

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Brazil shows why climate hopes will (probably) fail

By [Ben Kritz](#) December 7, 2021

THIS news item over the weekend was perhaps more depressing because it did not come as a surprise: Inpe, the Brazilian space research agency, reported that 13,235 square kilometers of Brazil's Amazon rainforest had disappeared in the past year, a 22-percent increase in deforestation from the year and the most in 15 years.

The biggest implication of the news is that it indicates that effective concerted action against anthropogenic climate change is extremely unlikely and that the best anyone can hope for are smaller, localized efforts that will ultimately not add up to enough to save the planet.

A global agreement to halt deforestation was the first, and one of the few, tangible gains of last month's COP26 climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland. One hundred ten countries pledged to end deforestation by 2030, including Brazil, which came as a pleasant surprise to everyone. Brazil, which is home to the world's largest rainforest, is also the world's most energetic destroyer of forests, particularly under the administration of populist thug Jair Bolsonaro, who takes a demented pride in making policy decisions specifically intended to harm people and the environment. The feeling at the time was that if a country like Brazil could be convinced to sign on to a pact to end deforestation, there was a good chance COP26 could achieve some real progress in slowing or stopping the planet's rapid slide toward becoming uninhabitable.

Even before Inpe's report — which, not surprisingly, annoyed both President Bolsonaro and his toady of an environment minister, Joachim Leite — there were clear signs that the deforestation agreement was window-dressing at best. To begin with, the agreement was largely a rehashed version of the same pledge that was made at the climate summit in New York in 2014, just with an updated deadline for "action." Just like the earlier agreement, in order to get everyone to agree on the current deforestation pact, it has language and details that are so vague and watered-down — beginning with kicking the problem down the road for another 10 years — that there is no way to ensure that any country will actually do anything.

The second problem with the deforestation agreement is that, just a day after signing it, the Indonesian government declared that the agreement was "unfair" and would hamper its economic development. Indonesia is second only to Brazil in terms of both the size of its forests and its appetite for destruction, and its participation in the agreement was seen as critical. Not signing it in the first place would have been extremely unfortunate, but sabotaging it by reneging on its signature less than 24 hours after putting it to paper was a Bolsonaro-worthy level of mockery of global climate efforts.

Of course, one has to get up pretty early in the morning if one wants to outdo Jair Bolsonaro in exhibiting bad faith. In the wake of Inpe's report on the acceleration of the loss of the Amazon rainforest, it has been discovered that the data was actually released on October 26, before the COP26 summit began; the Brazilian government intentionally withheld its publication until well after the summit had concluded.

And before anyone in the Philippines — particularly officials of the Duterte administration, whose commitment to responsible environmental management has grown more selective as time goes on — adopts a holier-than-thou attitude about other countries' misbehavior, institutionalized deforestation is still very much a routine policy here. In a story published over the weekend, the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism reported that the provincial government of Palawan, with the full connivance and cooperation of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, recently rezoned a large tract of the last rainforest belt on the island to allow the expansion of the Rio Tuba nickel mine. The area on Mt. Bulanjao is considered ancestral land by the indigenous Palawan people and is protected by a Palawan conservation law; in spite of this, the government will permit Rio Tuba to clear about 2,500 hectares to expand its strip-mining operations.



Of course, the "bigger picture" of "economic development" is the excuse used by the offending politicians, whether in Brazil, Indonesia, or here in the Philippines. The notion that macroeconomic growth must be at all times and in all circumstances prioritized is non-negotiable, everywhere in the world. It is the reason why not much seems to be accomplished toward stopping or even modestly reducing environmental destruction. "Economic development" is why rainforests are cleared; it why countries like India are able to sabotage global efforts to reduce reliance on coal for energy production and fuel; it is why the Philippines cannot rid itself of destructive anachronisms like the jeepney.

Until the world can change this mindset, we will continue marching to our own destruction. Trying to have our cake and eat it too by "balancing" economic and environmental priorities, expressing it in a series of vacuous "pledges" for some kind of action by some future deadline, has utterly failed, and there is no reason to believe that doing exactly the same thing again this year in Glasgow, or next year in Cairo, or the year after that in whatever place is going to suddenly start working.

Perhaps the late, great Stephen Hawking, who once estimated the human race only had about 800 years to go before becoming extinct, was right; we are doing our best, but are hardwired by evolution for our own destruction. The way things look now, 800 years may be a generous estimate.

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07 DECEMBER 2021, TUESDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

DOH logs 543 new COVID-19 infections

By [CNN Philippines Staff](#)

Published Dec 6, 2021 4:18:31 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, December 6) — The Department of Health (DOH) reported 543 new COVID-19 cases on Monday, pushing the country's case tally to 2,835,154.

There are 13,548 active cases, or 0.5% of the overall count.

The DOH said 1,063 of the currently sick show no symptoms, while 5,545 are classified as mild cases, 3,898 as moderate, 2,366 as severe, and 676 as critical.

It also said five testing laboratories did not send their reports on time, while two did not operate on Dec. 4. Data over the past two weeks show these seven laboratories accounted for 0.1% of all samples tested and 0.4% of positive cases.

The death toll is now at 49,499 with 113 more fatalities recorded.

The department clarified that there was late encoding of data on fatalities and that only 14 of those newly confirmed occurred in December, while 21% died in October. It further noted 102 others were mistakenly declared as recoveries in previous bulletins.

Another 830, meanwhile, were tagged as recovered, with the total survivors rising to 2,772,107.

After final validation, the department also removed 12 duplicate entries from its data, along with 152 cases found to have tested negative.

The DOH said the country is at minimal risk case classification for COVID-19, with a positivity rate of 1.80%. This refers to the percentage of infected people out of all tested for COVID-19.



Pinas 'minimal risk' na sa COVID-19

Danilo Garcia - Pang-masa December 7, 2021 | 12:00am



Individuals begin to look for and purchase Christmas decorations at the Dapitan Arcade in Quezon City.
The STAR / Walter Bollozos

MANILA, Philippines — Iniulat kahapon ng Department of Health (DOH) na patuloy na bumubuti ang sitwasyon ng coronavirus disease (COVID-19) sa bansa kaya't nasa ilalim na ng minimal risk case ang Pilipinas.

Sinabi ni Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire na mas mababa na sa 1 ang average daily attack rate mula Nobyembre 22 hanggang Disyembre 5, na nangangahulugang mula sa low risk ay bumaba pa sa minimal risk ang bansa.

“Nationally we remain at minimal risk case classification with a negative two-week growth rate at -57% and a low-risk average daily attack rate at 0.67 cases for every 100,000 individuals,” pahayag niya sa isang media briefing.

13 naman sa 17 rehiyon ang nasa ilalim ng parehong klasipikasyon, dagdag niya.

Tanging Metro Manila, Cordillera Administrative Region, Cagayan Valley, at Zamboanga Peninsula na lamang ang natitira sa low risk case classification, na mas mataas ng isa kumpara sa minimal risk status.

Nasa 1.80% porsyento naman ang positivity rate ng bansa, kung saan ang Metro Manila na may 1.1 porsyento ang pinakamababa. Tumutukoy ito sa porsyento ng lahat ng sumailalim sa COVID-19 test na nagpositibo.

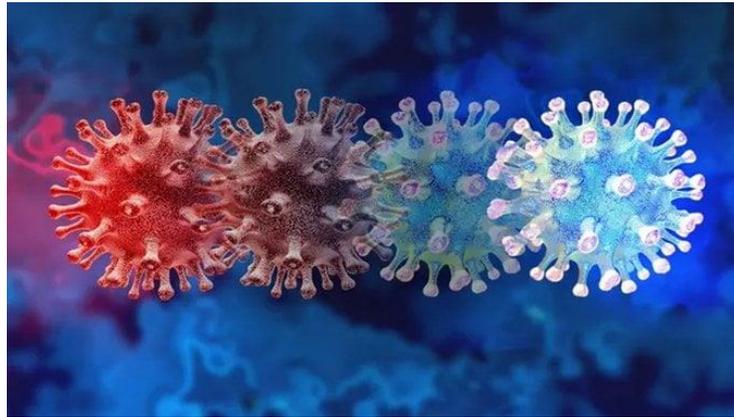
Ibinalita rin ng opisyal na mas mababa na sa 50 porsyento ang paggamit sa kapasidad ng health systems sa bansa.

Nitong Linggo ay nakapagtala ng 2,834,775 COVID-19 cases kung saan 13,853 ay mga aktibong kaso habang nasa 49,386 ang nasawi.



8 pang arrivals mula sa South Africa patuloy na tinutunton – DOH

By **Bombo Everly Rico** -December 6, 2021 | 10:02 PM



Walo pang mga arrivals mula sa South Africa kung saan natuklasan ang pinakaunang kaso ng Omicron variant ng COVID-19 na dumating sa Pilipinas noong Nobiyembre 15 hanggang 29 ang tinutunton ng Department of Health (DOH) kasabay ng nagpapatuloy na contact tracing.

Ayon kay Health department spokesperson Maria Rosario Vergeire, natukoy na ang 80 mga biyahero mula sa South Africa kung saan nasa 77 dito ang returning Filipinos at 3 ang foreign nationals habang nagpapatuloy ang verification sa 165 pang arrivals.

Iniulat ni Vergeire na nagnegatibo sa COVID-19 ang apat na travelers na muling na-swab test

Nilinaw din ni Vergeire na sa lahat ng samples na sinuri sa latest genome sequencing ay walang na-detect na omicron variant kundi karamihan sa na-detect ay ang Delta variant.

Inaasahang lalabas naman ang resulta ng genome sequencing sa mga arrivals mula South Africa na nagpositibo sa COVID-19 sa araw ng Miyerkules, Disyembre 8.

Mayroon ding 12 samples mula sa mga returning overseas Filipinos na sinusuri ng Philippine Genome Center.

Source: <https://www.bomboradyo.com/8-pang-arrivals-mula-sa-south-africa-patuloy-na-tinutunton-doh/>



MGA BATA PAVORITO NG OMICRON VARIANT



December 6, 2021 @ 4:31 PM 14 hours ago

HIGIT na sinasalakay ng Omicron variant ang mga bata at matanda, ayon kay South African government medical adviser Waasila Jassat.

Pangunahing biktima umano ang matatanda na kahit bakunado ay mahihina na ang resistansya laban sa sakit at pangalawang biktima ang mga bata, lalo na ang mga edad 5 pababa at may rekord na ngang 10 porsyento ng mga naoospital ang edad 2 pababa.

Paliwanag ni Jassat ukol sa mga bata, kung may 20 naoospital noong una, ngayon nasa 100 na.

Sa kanilang pag-aaral, naiimpeksyon o nahahawaan ang mga bata dahil wala talagang bakuna ang mga ito.

Sa kabilang banda, sa mga pamilyang may mga bakunadong miyembro, mas kakaunti ang nahahawaan.

Dito nakikita ang halaga ng bakuna laban sa COVID-19 at nagbubunga ito ng maganda sa mga vulnerable kung tawagin, ang mga bata na walang kalaban-laban sa virus.

KALONG NA BABY, BITBIT NA PASLIT

Kahit saan ngayon sa mahal kong Pinas, mula umaga hanggang gabi, may mga kalong-kalong na baby at bitbit-bitbit na paslit ang mga magulang, lolo't lola, guardian at kasambayan sa mga mall, palengke, pasyalan, tianggehan at pampublikong sasakyan.

Walang mask ang mga baby at paslit at kasama sila sa mga nag-uumpukan o naglalamiyerdang mga may edad na halos walang pakialam sa social distancing at iba pang health protocol.

Mistulang nakawala sa koral ang mga mamamayan ngayon at dala-dala nila sa paglabas ng mga tahanan ang mga walang muwang at madaling magkasakit na baby at bata.

Paano na lang kung mahawa ang mga ito kahit ng anong uri ng virus ng COVID?

3-5 BESES HAWAAN SA OMICRON

Kung sa orig na virus ng COVID ay may nahahawang 1-3 katao, nakahahahawa ang Delta variant ng 4-6 katao.

Pero sa Omicron variant, nakahahawa ng 3-5 beses kumpara sa Delta variant at batay sa karanasan sa Norway, lumilitaw ang mga palatandaan ng Omicron variant sa loob lamang ng 2-3 araw.

Ganyang karami ang nagkakasakit sa Omicron variant at ganyan din kabilis ang mga hawaan.



Alalahaning napatunayan nang bukod sa pagkapit ng mga laway at iba pang likido na tumatalsik mula sa may COVID na nagsasalita, umuubo at bumabahing, tumutulay rin sa hangin ang virus.

Ganyan ang hawaan sa pandemya.

NARITO NA PERO 'DI PA NATATAGPUAN

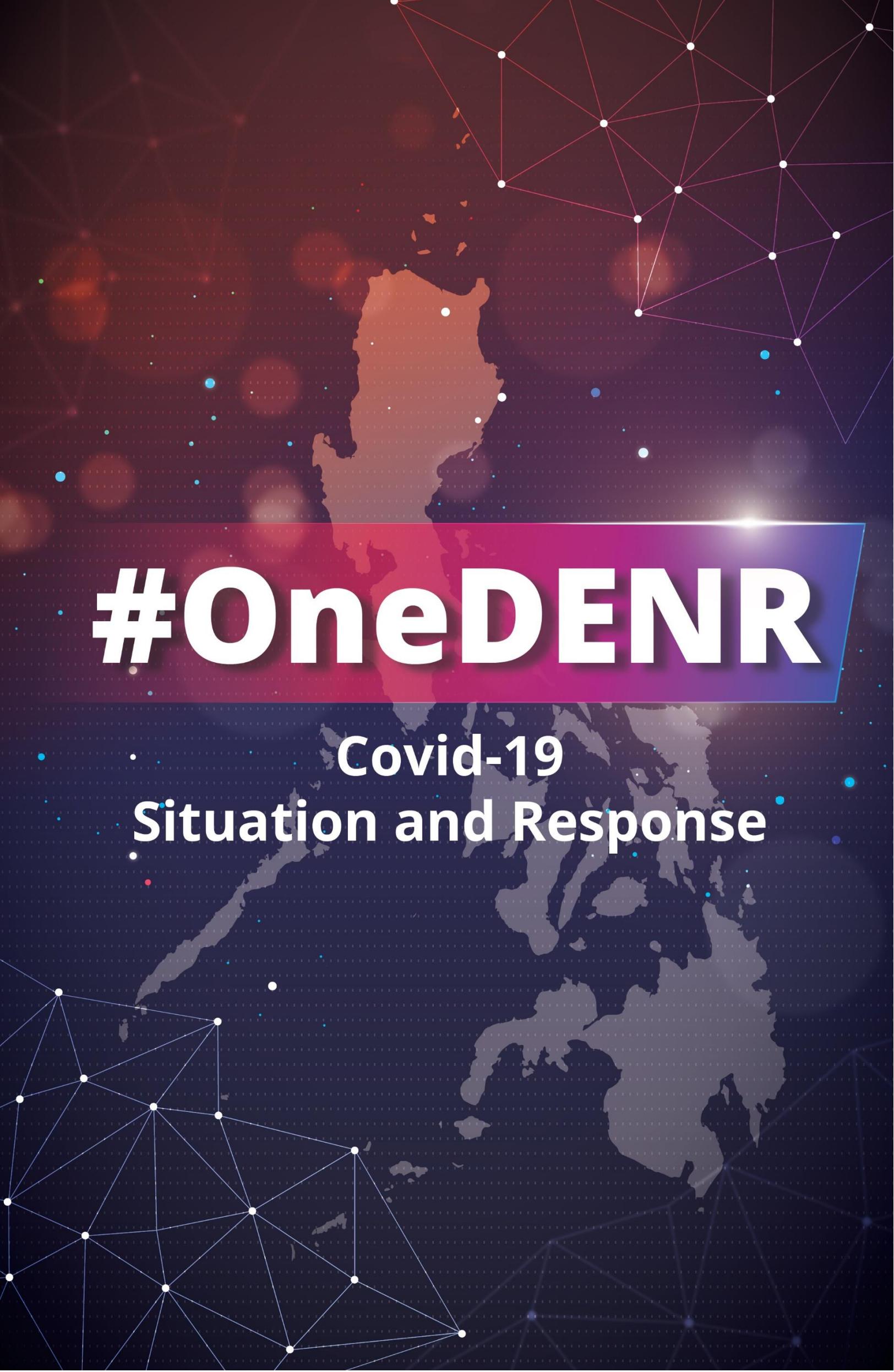
Dapat pakinggan ang sinasabi ng ating mga awtoridad na narito na sa bansa ang Omicron variant bagama't hindi pa ito natatagpuan.

Sa rami na ng mga dumarating sa bansa na Pinoy at dayuhan mula sa halos 50 bansa nang may Omicron variant, maaaring isang araw ay may makita na ang Philippine Genome Center na biktima at maaaring may nahawaan na rin ito.

Kaya naman, panay na ang babala ng pamahalaan sa mga mamamayan na mag-ingat at sumunod sa health protocols at magpabakuna ang dapat mabakunahan.

Nariryan din ang pagsusulong nila na gawin na lang virtual o daanin sa internet ang mga Christmas party at iba pang pagtitipon sa halip na mag-face-to-face at may babala na rin sa pagbitbit ng mga bata sa mga matatao, sarado at walang social distancing na mga lugar.

Makinig ang dapat makinig!



#OneDENR

**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 632

DISYEMBRE 6, 2021

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

0.5%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
13,548

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

97.8%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
2,772,107

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.75%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
49,499

MGA BAGONG KASO **543**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **830**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **113**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,835,154**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING DISYEMBRE 4

DATOS NGAYONG DISYEMBRE 6
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG DISYEMBRE 4

1.7%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

32,634

BILANG NG
TINVEST

HALOS

48.8%

ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

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

KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (3.6K TOTAL BEDS)

26% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (19.8K TOTAL BEDS)

25% Utilized

WARD BEDS (12.8K TOTAL BEDS)

14% Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)

14% Utilized

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.2K TOTAL BEDS)

29% Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.7K TOTAL BEDS)

22% Utilized

WARD BEDS (3.9K TOTAL BEDS)

20% Utilized

VENTILATORS (0.9K TOTAL VENTILATORS)

17% Utilized

KALAGAYAN NG MGA
AKTIBONG KASO

1,063 Asymptomatic

5,545 Mild

3,898 Moderate

2,366 Severe

676 Critical



UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Ang banta ng COVID-19 ay hindi natatapos. Kaya naman marapat lang na ipagpatuloy natin ang pagsunod sa **Minimum Public Health Standards** at makiisa sa pambansang pagbabakuna. Ang laban mo sa COVID-19 natin ay laban nating lahat. 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

MESSSENGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVIED 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

07 DECEMBER 2021, TUESDAY



DENR

NEWS

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



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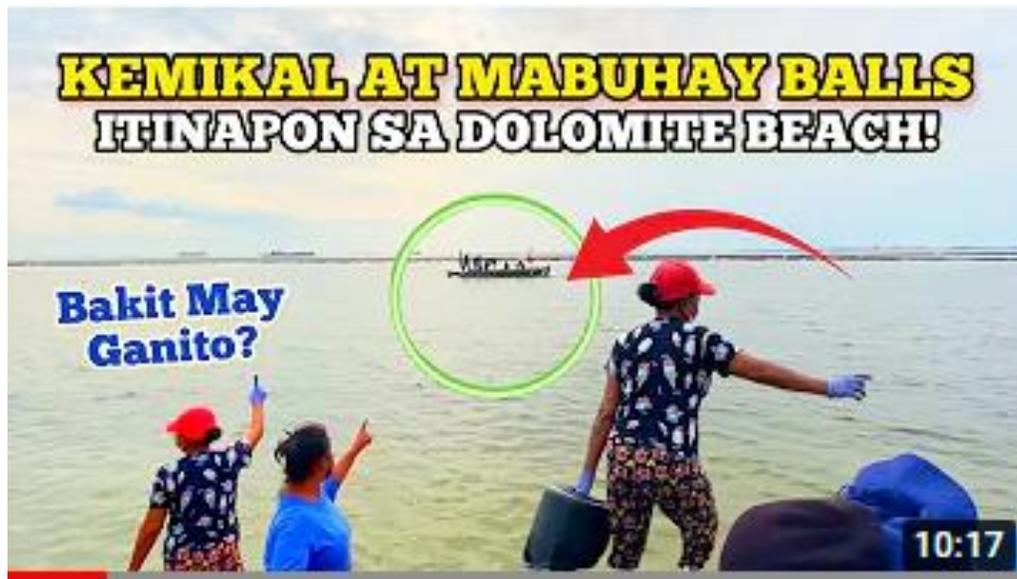
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