

17 MARCH 2022, Thursday



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NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PH Joins UNEP@50

[Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Journal Online](#)



Department of Environment and Natural Resources Acting Secretary [Jim O. Sampulna](#) delivers the country message of the Philippines during **UNEP@50** to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the creation of the [United Nations Environment Programme](#) (UNEP) in 1972.

Sampulna underscored that the delivery on the Means of Implementation such as Finance, Technology, and Capacity Building is key to the solution of environmental problems. UNEP@50 was the venue for the special session of the UN Environment Assembly held in Nairobi, Kenya and online on March 3-4, 2022.



SINISIGURO NG NWRB AT MANILA WATER ANG PAGHAHATID NG MAAASAHANG SUPPLY NG TUBIG



March 15, 2022 @ 8:04 PM 1 day ago

SA pagpasok ng tag-init at sa kabila ng higit-kumulang 17.89 metrong baba ng lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam kumpara sa normal na operating level nito na 212-metro, patuloy na sinisiguro ng Manila Water na ang supply ng tubig para sa mga customer ay manatiling sapat at tuloy-tuloy.

Ito ay dahil naikasa na ng Manila Water ang ilang programa ukol sa water supply contingency at augmentation, sa malapit na pakikipag-ugnayan at pakikipagtulungan sa Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) at National Water Resources Board (NWRB).

Kabilang dito ang pagma-maximize ng 100 million-liter-per-day (MLD) kapasidad ng Cardona Water Treatment Plant, na kumukuha ng tubig mula sa Laguna Lake; pagpapagana ng mga deepwells na makapagdaragdag ng hanggang 115 MLD; at pagpapagana ng Marikina Portable Water Treatment Plant na maaaring makapaglinis ng tubig mula sa Marikina River upang makadagdag ng hanggang 20 MLD sa supply.

Bukod dito, ilang adjustment din sa operasyon ang isasagawa ng kumpanya gaya ng 'backwash recovery' o paglilinis muli ng 'wastewater byproduct' ng proseso ng water treatment, maging ang paga-adjust ng pressure ng tubig sa kabuuan ng East Zone kung kinakailangan. Maaari ring kumuha ng karagdagang tubig para sa La Mesa Reservoir mula sa kalapit na Alat Dam.



SINISIGURO NG NWRB AT MANILA WATER ANG PAGHAHATID NG MAAASAHANG SUPPLY NG TUBIG

Bagama't itong mga programa sa supply augmentation ay sinisimulan na, patuloy pa rin ang panawagan ng Manila Water tungo sa responsableng paggamit ng tubig, bilang suporta sa naturang programa ng NWRB at MWSS.

Habang nagtutulungan ang pamahalaan at ang kunsesyunaryo upang makapagbigay ng tuloy-tuloy na supply ng tubig, hinihikayat naman ang publiko na maging matalino at responsible sa paggamit ng tubig upang maiwasan na masayang ito.

Base sa ulat ng MWSS, ang antas ng tubig sa Angat Dam ay nasa 194.11 metro sa araw ng Marso 14, 2022, (8:00am), bahagyang bumaba ang water level sa Angat dam, sa Ipo Dam nasa 98.77 mtrs, mas mababa sa maintaining level na 101 meters at sa La Mesa Dam nasa 78.37 mas mababa rin sa maintaining level na 80.15 meters.



Filipina designer fashions gowns out of recycled trash

By [Adrian Portugal via Reuters](#)

- March 16, 2022 - 10:42 AM



Nora Buenviaje displays a dress made of used sacks of rice and plastic bags, at her shop in Cainta, Rizal Province, Philippines, March 3, 2022. Picture taken March 3, 2022. (Reuters/Lisa Marie David)

CAINTA, Philippines — Lenora Buenviaje has been making dresses out of waste materials for the past seven years and says wearing clothes made from such items as recycled newspapers, plastic wrapping and rice sacks can be both economical and fashionable.

Using a foot-operated sewing machine, the 51-year-old Philippine seamstress stitches and weaves plastics and other materials into inventive and fashionable frocks and gowns, sometimes completed by headdresses.

“The bubble wraps from delivery packages are nice looking and make for a good design, especially the black and white wraps,” she said.

White wraps were good for making fairy or wedding gowns, she said.

The dresses sell for between \$30 to \$50 and are used for everything from debuts – a coming-of-age party for a woman’s 18th birthday – to weddings.

In Asia, there is plenty of waste material for Buenviaje to work with: About 80% of global ocean plastic is estimated to come from Asian rivers, and the Philippines alone contributes a third of that, according to a 2021 report by Oxford University’s online publication, Our World in Data.

“It’s important to recycle or utilize used materials so we can help our earth,” said Buenviaje client Lalaine Alcalde. The recycled material used for each dress depends on what her clients are looking for, said Buenviaje, who lives in Cainta, about 15 km (10 miles) east of Manila.



Filipina designer fashions gowns out of recycled trash

Her gowns are sometimes used in beauty contests and pageants, she also said. “I get delighted whenever they win, the designs are simple but they still win.”

Buenviaje hopes in-person fashion shows and competitions that were halted during the pandemic will soon resume.

She also aims to organize fashion events herself to showcase and inspire others to create clothing out of recycled materials.

—Reporting by Adrian Portugal; Editing by Ed Davies and Tom Hogue



Anna Oposa: A mermaid saving our Philippine seas

Published March 16, 2022, 12:02 AM

by [Faith Argosino](#)

(In celebration of International Women's Day and Women's Month, Manila Bulletin is publishing stories featuring women who have made outstanding contributions to the country or to their communities.)



Anna Oposa

Many people might think that joining a coastal cleanup, recycling, or promoting environmental awareness on their social media accounts is already enough to conserve our planet. But this is not the case for Anna Oposa, 34, a marine conservationist who has lived by her title as the “chief mermaid” of Save Philippine Seas (SPS) through educating “seatizens” about marine life and environmental conservation.

At the age of 23, Oposa co-founded SPS, which began as an online platform in response to a massive illegal wildlife trade case in 2011.

“SPS began as a social media campaign created by a handful of people who met online. I had just turned in my thesis then (a.k.a. grad-waiting), so I had a lot of free time to be emotional and occupied by this issue,” Oposa told Manila Bulletin in an online interview.



Anna Oposa: A mermaid saving our Philippine seas



ANNA OPOSA, the marine conservationist who has lived by her title as the chief mermaid of Save Philippine Seas.

To her surprise, the campaign, which was intended to be a “hobby,” drew attention from schools, governments, and funders. A year later, Oposa won an award with financial resources used for SPS’ registration as a non-government organization (NGO) in 2013.

Since then, the organization has mobilized “seatizen-led initiatives” in line with its “advocasea” to “narrow the gap between scientists and the general public, the old and young, and the passionate and indifferent.”

Under SPS, Oposa founded Haquathon, a hackathon, and incubator for technology-based solutions to marine conservation issues. Among the issues are coastal law enforcement, environmental education, coral restoration, and marine pollution; Sea and Earth Advocates (SEA) Camp, which enables youth to become leaders; Shark Shelter, a multi-stakeholder, community-based project in Malapascua Island, Cebu, that aims to conserve coastal and marine resources.

How it all started

Oposa did dream of becoming a marine conservationist. However, she was exposed to the environmental issues due to her father’s occupation as an environmental lawyer.



Anna Oposa: A mermaid saving our Philippine seas



“My family discussed environmental issues and other current events as part of our meals, and environmental practices were always part of our lifestyle, for example segregating waste, conserving water and electricity,” the 34-year-old chief mermaid shared.

Her interest in marine life only developed when she volunteered for an underwater cleanup at 19, which led to co-founding a waste management campaign in her alma mater, the University of the Philippines (UP).

“My friend and I succeeded in banning Styrofoam (polystyrene) in UP and teaching waste management in different colleges and dorms,” Oposa said.

Greatest achievement

Growing up, Oposa was a diligent student with good grades and a love for music and literary arts. She finished cum laude at the University of the Philippines (UP) with a degree in English Studies-Language, pursued MSc in Conservation Science (Merit) at Imperial College, UK, and studied Global Fellow in Marine Conservation at Duke University, USA.

She has garnered several awards, from being one of the Pitong Pinoy Modern-Day Heroes of Yahoo! Southeast Asia to being one of the North American Association for Environmental Education’s (NAAEE) Global 30 Under 30 awardee in 2018, among others.

But despite all of these, Oposa said that her most significant achievements are not found in her awards: “When I see alumni of our programs leading their own initiatives or making lifestyle changes, or sharing what they’ve learned in SPS programs with their own spheres of influence, that’s when I’m most proud,” she said.

“A lot of people are discouraged when they don’t do their environmental practices perfectly, but the truth is, we can’t. We live in a world that doesn’t make that easy or intuitive just yet. But we have to keep trying, individually and collectively,” the chief mermaid advised.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2022/03/16/anna-oposa-a-mermaid-saving-our-philippine-seas/>



UN adopts resolution promoting bicycles to combat climate change



By [Agence France-Presse](#)

March 16, 2022

UNITED NATIONS: The 193 members of the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution Tuesday supporting bicycles as a tool for combatting climate change.

The resolution, proposed by Turkmenistan, was passed unanimously and like all General Assembly resolutions is non-binding.

It calls on member states to "integrate the bicycle into public transportation, in urban and rural settings in developing and developed countries."

Increasing cycling through improved road safety and the promotion of bike-riding will help achieve "sustainable development, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions," according to the resolution.

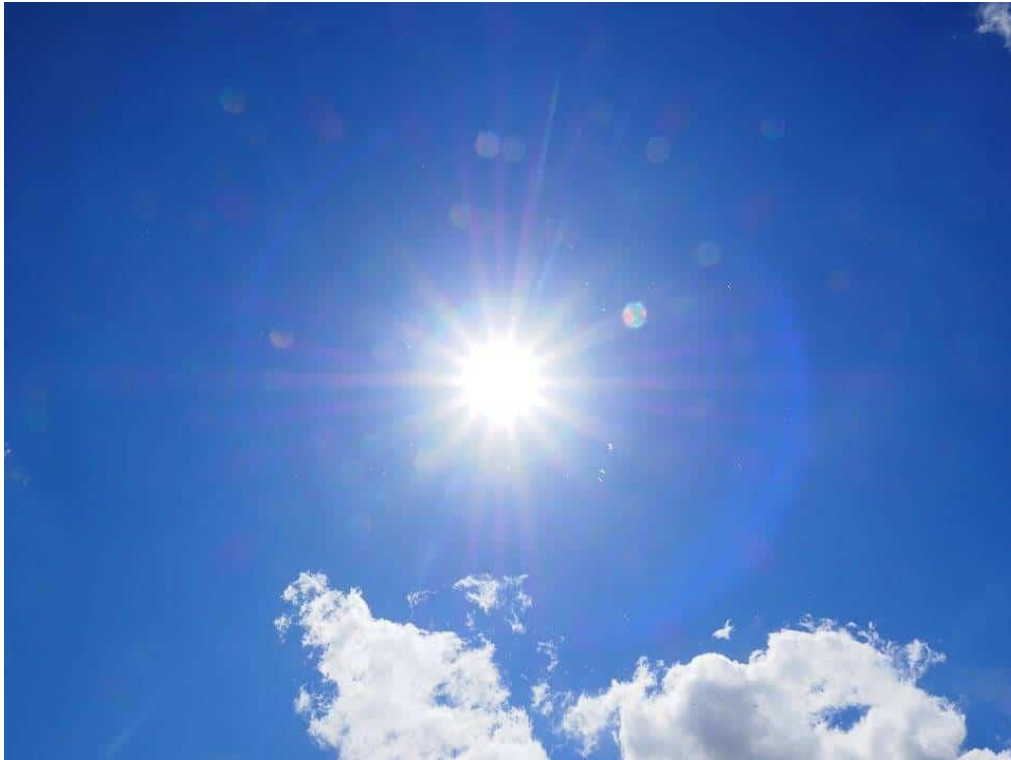
More specifically, the resolution encourages member states to "give special attention to cycling in cross-cutting development strategies, including bicycle sharing services," as well as when possible in "international, regional, national and subnational development policies and programs."



PAGASA officially declares start of dry season

Published March 16, 2022, 10:23 AM

by [Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz](#)



(MANILA BULLETIN / FILE PHOTO)

Expect warmer weather in the coming weeks after the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) officially declared the start of dry season in the country on Wednesday, March 16.

PAGASA Administrator Vicente Malano said the termination of the northeast monsoon or “amihan” season signaled the beginning of warmer weather in the Philippines.

“The recent analysis indicate retreat of the high pressure area (HPA) over Siberia, thereby weakening the associated northeasterly winds and decreasing sea level pressure in the country,” Malano said in a statement.

“Moreover, the wind pattern has generally shifted from northeasterlies to easterlies over most parts of the country as a result of the advancing HPA over the northwestern Pacific. These signify the termination of the northeast monsoon (amihan) and the start of the dry season and warmer condition,” he said.

With the start of dry and warm season in the country, Malano noted that the “day-to-day rainfall distribution across the country will [now] be influenced mostly by easterlies and localized thunderstorms.”

He advised the public to take precautionary measures to minimize heat stress and optimize the daily use of water for personal and domestic consumption.



PAGASA officially declares start of dry season

PAGASA has these other tips to prevent heat stroke.

1. Stay indoors as much as possible, if air conditioning is not available, stay on the lowest floor out of the sunshine.
2. Wear lightweight and light colored clothing. Light colors will reflect the sun's energy. Drink plenty of water regularly. The body needs water to keep cool.
3. Water is the safest liquid to drink during heat emergencies. Avoid drinking liquor because it dehydrates the body.
4. Eat small meals however eat more often. Avoid eating foods of high in protein which can increase metabolic heat.



Thursday, 17 March 2022
Daily Tribune

NEDA suggests 4-day workweek

Let's try energy conservation and one of the examples here is through the four-day workweek. Every Filipino will still work 40 hours per week but instead of five days, it will be four days. Instead of eight hours, it will be ten hours per day

BY RAADEE SAUSA

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) recommended a four-day workweek to alleviate costs on related expenses such as fuel and transport costs, an official said.

Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Karl Kendrick Chua suggested to the government the imposition of a four-day workweek to conserve energy and alleviate the public's expenses amid the series of bigtime oil price hikes.

During President Rodrigo Duterte's "Talk to the People," Chua said the country should exercise energy conservation by limiting the mobility of workers into four

days with increased hours of duty per day.

"Let's try energy conservation and one of the examples here is through the four-day workweek. Every Filipino will still work 40 hours per week but instead of five days, it will be four days. Instead of eight hours, it will be ten hours per day," he said.

Moreover, Chua also said the country had already implemented such changes in the 1990s during the Gulf War and in 2008 when the fuel prices also increased then.

For his part, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said the NEDA proposal is doable in the near-term. "I believe so, working 10 hours a day for four days a week is a good idea," he said.

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MAGTIPID SA PAGGAMIT NG TUBIG AT KURYENTIPID TIPS SA PANAHON NG TAG-INIT

BAGAMAT hindi pa opisyal na nagdedeklara ng panahon ng tag-init o summer ang **Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)** ay damang-dama na natin ang init at alinsangan. Sasabay pangayon ang pagtaas ng presyo ng gasolina at diesel. Isa sa epekto nito ay pagtaas ng presyo ng kuryente.

Noong nakaraang linggo, hinikayat ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB) ang publiko na maging matalino at responsible sa paggamit ng tubig upang maiwasan na masayang ito. Kinakailangan

magtipid sa paggamit ng tubig habang nagtutulungan ang pamahalaan at ang konsesyunaryo upang makapagbigay ng tuloy-tuloy na supply ng tubig sa panahon ng tag-init.

Base sa ulat ng PAGASA, ang antas ng tubig sa Angat Dam ay nasa 194.02 metro sa araw ng Marso 16, 2022, (6:00am). Sa Ipo Dam nasa 98.75 mtrs at sa La Mesa Dam nasa 78.43.

Sa panahon ng tag-init, siguradong tataas din ang konsumo ng kuryente. Kaya naman, para makatulong sa mga Ginang ng Tahanan sa kanilang pagbaba-badget, ibabahagi ko ang mga "kuryentipid" tips mula sa Eco-Waste Coalition:

- I-off ang mga ilaw at bu-nutin ang mga appliances o mga device kapag hindi na ginagamit o matapos gamitin.



- Huwag hayaan na naka-plug in sa magdamag ang mobile phones at bunutin na rin ang charger kapag fully charged na ang inyong telepono.

- Gumamit lamang ng energy-efficient at mercury-free-light-emitting diode lights.

- Gumamit lamang ng low-wattage lights sa mga lugar sa bahay na hindi masyadong kailangan ang liwanag.

- Palagiang linisan ang mga ilaw para mapanatili ang "illumination" nito.

- Gamitin ang liwanag ng sikat ng araw, buksan ang mga bintana.

- Gumamit ng pamaypay o electric fan kaysa air-conditioners.

- Bawasan ang paggamit ng air-condition. Kung gagamit naman, ilagay lamang sa 25 degrees Celsius. Palagian ding linisin ang dust filters at condenser coils.

- Ilagay ang tirang pagkain sa bagong saing na bigas para ito kaysa gumamit ng stove, toaster o microwave.

- Palagiang linisan ang inyong mga refrigerator at ilagay lamang sa katamtamang temperatura at huwag i-overload ang refrigerator.

- Iwasan ang bukas at sara sa refrigerator.

- I-organisa ang paglilinis, pagluluto, pamamalantsa, paglalaba at iba pang mga gawain.

- Hintaying mapuno ang washing machine ng mga labahin bago simulant itong pandararin.

- Gumamit ng init ng araw sa pagpapatuyo ng mga sinampay.

- Mag-plantsa ng maramihan at hindi ng patingi-tingi.

Palagiang tandan ang mga kuryentipids at maging responsible sa paggamit ng tubig, siguradong makatipid sa mga gastusin sa bahay.



DELIKADONG PLASTIC SA CAMPAIGN SEASON

MAY resolusyong pinagtibay sa katatapos na United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) (UNEA-5.2) sa Nairobi, kung saan nangako ang 175 bansang bubuo sila ng isang ligal na pandaigdigang tratado upang wakasan ang plastic pollution.

Upang maintindihan ang kahataga ng laban kontra polusyon ng plastic sa institutional level sa Pilipinas, ang panahon ng kampanya para sa National and Local Elections sa Mayo 9 ay nagbunsod ng sangkapatutak na produksyon ng plastic pollutants sa paraan

ng campaign posters.

Totoong nagpalabas ang Commission on Elections ng mga patakaran para himukin ang mga kandidato na iwawang gumamit ng campaign materials na nagtataglay ng delikadong substances ngunit wala namang umiiral na pambansang polisyas na naglilimita sa paggamit ng cadmium sa mga plastic, tulad ng mga PVC-based tarpaulins na pangunahing gamit sa paggawa ng posters.

Sa pag-aaral na kinomisyon ng EcoWaste Coalition, natuklasang ang cam-

paign posters ng anim na kandidato sa pagka-Pangulo ay may multicolored coatings na nagtataglay ng mapanganib na rami ng cadmium—isang substance na tinagurian ng World Health Organization (WHO) bilang isa sa "10 kemikal na pangunahing nagdudulot ng problema pangkalusugan."

Bagamat kadalasang volunteers ang nagpapagawa at nagdo-donate ng campaign tarpaulins at posters, mahalagang bigyang-diin ito sa pumuntirya sa pagka-Pangulo. Kaya suma-shoutout ang Firing Line kina kandidatong Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., Vice President Ma. Leonor "Len" Robredo, Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso, Leodegario "Ka Leody" de Guzman,

at Senators Panfilo "Ping" Lacson at Manny Pacquiao para iparating sa kanila na literal na toxic ang posters na ikinakalat sa iba't ibang sulok ng bansa.

Iniulat ng SGS, testing company na kinomisyon ng EcoWaste Coalition, na ang campaign posters ng anim na kandidato "ay nasuring may cadmium na mula 607 hanggang 775 parts per million (ppm) habang ang puting plastic sheet ay may cadmium na 384 hanggang 546 ppm" at lampas-lampas sa 110 ppm na pinahihintulutan ng European Union at WHO.

Nakababahala ring papalapit na ang pangangampanya ng mga kandidatong lokal. Asahan nang dadagsa pa ang dami ng plastic posters na may delikadong antas ng cadmium.

At pagkatapos ng eleksyon, lahat ng ito ay ibabasura na. Ayon sa EcoWaste, ang pag-susunog ng PVC tarpaulin sa mga tambakan, cement kilns, at incinerators ay nagbubunsod ng pagkabuo at pagsingaw ng persistent organic pollutants (POPs), tulad ng dioxins at furans, na dapat bawasan o tuluyang iwaksi, sa bisa ng Stockholm Convention on POPs na nilagdaan din ng Pilipinas.

Dahil dito, nakikiisa ang Firing Line sa grupo ni EcoWaste Plastic Solutions campaigner Coleen Salamat sa paghiling ng aksiyon mula sa gobyerno "para maglabas ng supplemental directive na magpapatigil sa paggamit ng cadmium sa plastics bilang colorant at/o stabilizer."



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UMARYA NA! 2,100 na volunteer cyclists ang pumadyak nitong Marso 14, 2022 lulan ng kanilang mga bisikleta bilang suporta sa eco-friendly election campaign ni dating Speaker at ngayo'y nagbabalik-Senado na si Alan Peter Cayetano. Ang 14 Alan Bike Caravan ay isinagawa sa 14 lugar sa buong bansa na nilahukan ng 87 grupo ng mga siklista.

Ang bike caravan ay sabay-sabay na ginanap sa Lungsod Marikina at Maynila, Vigan, Baguio, Urdaneta sa Pangasinan, Pili, Camarines Sur at Legazpi at Albay. Sa Visa-

yas, nagkaroon din ng bike caravan sa Lungsod ng Cebu, Bacolod, Barotac Nuevo sa Iloilo at Ormoc City samantalang sa Cagayan De Oro, General Santos, at Lungsod ng Zamboanga naman pumadyak ang mga volunteer cyclist Mindanao.

Aba'y alam naman natin na si Cayetano ang kauna-unahang kandidato na nagpatupad ng eco-friendly election campaign trail dahil sa kanyang pagpapahalaga sa kalikasan at para 'di na makadagdag sa gabundok na basura ng campaign materials.

Kaya dininig ng volunteer

BIKE CARAVAN PARA SA ECO-FRIENDLY CAMPAIGN

cyclists ang kanyang panawagan na suportahan ang kanyang digital campaign dahil hindi na sya nagpa-imprenta ng posters, flyers at iba pang traditional campaign materials. Minabuti rin ng dating Speaker of the House na hindi magsagawa ng mga motorcade ngayong kampanya dahil sa walang habas na pagtaas ng presyo ng gasolina at upang 'di na makadagdag sa lumalalang polusyon sa bansa.

Ayon nga kay Barotac Nuevo Councilor Simon Fernando, umaasa siya na magpapatuloy ang naturang eco-friendly campaign ni Cayetano. Binigyang diin naman ni Albay Board Member at Association of Barangay Councils Albay Chapter President Joseph Philip "JP" Lee na karapat-dapat suportahan ang

naturang bike caravans at ang adbokasiya ni Cayetano. Umaasa rin si Lee na magsisilbing halimbawa ang eco-friendly campaign sa ibang national candidates dahil kaya naman palang mangampanya na walang basura.

Noong February 28, unang isinagawa ng cycling groups ang kauna-unahang bike caravan sa Pampanga at Laguna para kay Cayetano.

Hinikayat din ni Cayetano ang kanyang mga tagasuporta na magtanim ng mga puno at mangrove, magtayo ng urban farms at gamitin ang social media bilang mga alternatibo sa tradisyunal na pangangampanya. Kaya naman pinuri ng iba't ibang environment groups ang panawagan ng dating Speaker tulad ng EcoWaste Coalition na nag-

sabing nagpapahayag ng kanyang "malalim na pagkalinga sa kalikasan at mahalagang misyon na gawing mas malinis, ligtas at maayos ang kampanya hanggang sa araw na halalan."

Ang 14 Alan Bike Caravans ay nilahukan din ng mga social media influencers na nakipadyak din. Nagpakita rin ng suporta ang mga pamilya ng sari-sari stores na nakatanggap ng tulong mula kay Cayetano sa pamamagitan ng bike caravan posters sa harap ng kanilang mga tinadahan.

Sana mamulat na rin ang ibang mga kandidato na bawasan na ang pagdidikit ng campaign posters bilang respeto sa kapaligiran at sa mga nahihirapan sa pagbabaklas at pagtatanggal ng mga ito matapos na ang halalan.



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UN promotes bicycle use vs. climate change

THE 193 members of the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution Tuesday supporting bicycles as a tool for combatting climate change.

The resolution, proposed by Turkmenistan, was passed unanimously and like all General Assembly resolutions is non-binding.

It calls on member states to "integrate the bicycle into public transportation, in urban and rural settings in developing and developed countries."

Increasing cycling through improved road safety and the promotion of bike-riding will help achieve "sustainable development, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions," according to the resolution.

More specifically, the resolution encourages member states to "give special attention to cycling in cross-cutting development strategies, including bicycle sharing services," as well as when possible in "international, regional, national and sub-national development policies and programs." **AFP**



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Regional Updates



CHILDREN and adults enjoy bicycle rides at the Quezon Memorial Circle, a park managed by the local government of Quezon City, one of the finalists for this year's One Planet City Challenge of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

3 Philippine cities among finalists in WWF climate change challenge

THREE Philippine cities have been selected as finalists for the One Planet City Challenge, a global competition organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) that recognizes cities for their climate change actions and initiatives.

Chosen among the 16 qualified cities from the Philippines are Davao City, Dipolog City, and Quezon City.

"Climate change directly impacts cities and urban life. Increasing global temperatures result in rising sea levels and more extreme weather events such as floods, droughts, and storms,

particularly affecting coastal communities," the WWF said in a statement, citing a United Nations report.

"Further, increases in the spread of vector-borne and water-borne diseases and heat-related illnesses have affected urban populations as global temperatures increase."

WWF said some cities are responding to climate change risks through the use of renewable energy sources, regulations to limit industrial emissions, and instituting energy efficiency measures. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**



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THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1900
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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Legarda, DOT and LGU launch docu on Antique's marine treasures

Antique, a province in Panay Island in Western Visayas in the Philippines, is often overlooked as a tourist destination because of its proximity to the more popular Boracay Island in Aklan. But Antiqueños believe this will soon change.

"Antique is a paradise where the mountains meet the sea. It is a province that may have been in the doldrums for three decades but is now experiencing (its) Golden Age," says Loren Legarda, Deputy Speaker and Representative of the Lone District of Antique.

Under Legarda's vision of discovering, documenting and protecting Antique's rich marine biodiversity, she allocated a budget under the Department of Tourism that was implemented by the local government of Antique and the DOT regional office.



In early 2021, Studio H2O organized an expedition team composed of marine researchers, scientists, and underwater cinematographers. Aside from conducting a scientific survey of the reefs in Antique, particularly around the coastal areas of Pandan Bay and Libertad, the project also held a freediving workshop for fisherfolks with the intention of teaching them how to survey, protect and do an inven-

tory of their own marine areas.

"Part of the survey is to have the local people learn the method, so they can continue on with the monitoring, or at least be interested in learning more about it," says Tara Abrina, one of the team's researchers and freediving instructors. "The objective of the project was really for tourism, to see where people can go to dive, where guests can stay, and what might be interesting underwater," she adds.

During the survey, a rare sighting of an oceanic manta ray, a creature known to visit nutrient-rich waters that provide zooplankton, surprised and excited the team. The oceanic manta ray is famous for its majestic form that could reach up to twenty-three feet across. For the researchers, the encounter was truly magical. But no one was more delighted than the staunch environmental champion herself. "The discovery and sighting of the existence of the manta ray in our waters is so important because it shows they thrive in a healthy marine ecosystem," says Deputy Speaker Legarda. "And the manta ray, of course, must be protected at all costs, especially because it is identified as possibly threatened for extinction," she further emphasizes.

Antique: Where the Mountains Meet the Sea

Deputy Speaker Legarda is aware that the oceanic manta ray sighting can draw in more visitors and open up more possibilities for ecotourism. That is why she believes that the tedious task of survey and documentation is crucial in educating the public about the all-important work of protecting the environment. Thus, her continued support for projects such as this remains steadfast.

"How can we protect something we don't know exists and so documenting all of this - taking photos and video without destroying their habitats—is very important."

Legarda authored several landmark environmental laws, as well as laws on



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Deputy Speaker and Representative of the Lone District of Antique Loren Legarda; (inset) 'Antique: Where the Mountains Meet the Sea'

marine protection and conservation such as Ecological Solid Waste Management Law, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, the Climate Change Act, Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System, National Environmental Awareness and Education Act, People's Survival Fund Act, and the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, among others.

As Deputy Speaker and Representative of the Lone District of An-

tique, Legarda has also authored bills for the province's marine protection, such as the establishment of a multi-species marine hatchery in Tibiao and the Northern Antique Protected Seascape and Landscape.

Watch the journey of the Antique expedition team in Antique: Where the Mountains Meet the Sea, a new documentary produced by Studio H2O through the Office of Deputy Speaker Legarda, the Department of Tourism in partnership with the Province of Antique.

The 20-minute documentary, which captures the underwater beauty of the province, as well as the true heart of the Antiqueños, will air on Discovery Channel on March 23, 2022 (Wednesday) at 6:15 pm (Philippine standard time), with replays on March 24, 2022 at 8:15 am and 11:25 am (Philippine standard time). Discovery Channel airs in the following countries: Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, and India. (Manila Bulletin Entertainment)



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Manila Water spent record ₱13.7 billion in capex in 2021

By JAMES A. LOYOLA

Manila Water Co. reported that it expanded capital expenditures last year by 28 percent to ₱13.7 billion from the record ₱10.7 billion spent in 2020 despite the continued challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

"This is the highest CapEx record since the privatization of water service in the East Zone in 1997," the firm said in a statement.

In total, Manila Water has awarded 282 projects last year. These projects have been completed through collaboration with government agencies and a healthy pool of contractors, in compliance with international standards.

"It is imperative for us to focus our capital spending to meet both our water supply and sewerage service obligations," said Manila Water President and CEO Jose Emmanuel de Dios.

He added that, "Despite the challenges, we continue to serve more than 7 million people in the East Zone with safe and reliable water supply, covering over 1.3 million households and with more than 5,000 kilometers of network pipelines."

"For wastewater, we have invested close to ₱40 billion in capital expenditures over more than 20 years and will invest over ₱38 billion more until 2022," De Dios disclosed.

He noted that, "Wastewater coverage in the East Zone is now over 30 percent, equivalent to 2 million people served through nearly 400 kilometers of laid sewer network."

"This is a significant increase

from only 3 percent coverage when we took over operations from MWSS in 1997. These accomplishments, in turn, would not have been possible if not for the support and guidance of MWSS," De Dios said.

Major components of the investment include the construction of new facilities and networks to expand service coverage, rehabilitation and improvement on existing assets and facilities for both water and wastewater, compliance projects relating to biological nutrient removal (BNR) for wastewater facilities, and the implementation of interim water source projects.

These intervening water sources are critical to ensuring water availability in the coming peak demand months during summer, while major new water sources are still being built by the government. Completed sources include deep wells with a total capacity of over 100 million liters per day (MLD).

Major water system projects have also contributed to the investment such as the East Bay Water Supply System Project, which will utilize Laguna Lake as source, and the Calawis Water Supply System Project, which will treat and distribute water from the Upper Marikina Watershed.

It also includes the Marikina Portable Water Treatment Plant (PTP), which will utilize Marikina River as a water source, and the landmark Novaliches-Balara Aqueduct 4 (NBAQ4) project which entails the construction of a fourth aqueduct from the La Mesa Dam to the Balara Treatment Plants (BTPs).



4-day workweek, inirekomenda ng NEDA

Upang makatipid ng enerhiya at mabawasan ang gastusin ng publiko, kasunod nang patuloy na pagtaas ng presyo ng mga produktong petrolyo sa bansa ay inirekomenda ni National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) at Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Karl Kendrick Chua ang pagpapatupad ng pamahalaan ng four-day workweek.

Sa Talk to the People ni Pang. Rodrigo Duterte ay sinabi ni Chua na dapat na magtipid ng enerhiya ang bansa sa pamamagitan nang paglimita sa mobility ng mga manggagawa.

Maaari aniyang pagsukin na lamang ang mga ito ng apat na araw sa isang linggo, at dagdagan na lamang ang oras ng kanilang trabaho kada araw.

"Siguro subukan natin 'yung conservation of energy at isa sa halimbawa dito ay 'yung four-day workweek. Magta-trabaho pa rin po ang bawat Pilipino ng 40 hours per week pero imbes na sa limang araw, ay apat na araw. Imbes na walong oras, magiging 10-oras kada araw," mungkahi pa ni Chua.

Ipinaliwaang ni Chua

na dati na itong naipapatupad ng pamahalaan noong 1990s sa panahon ng Gulf War at noong 2008 nang tumaas din ang presyo ng krudo.

Bukod naman sa pagtitipid ng enerhiya, inirekomenda rin ni Chua ang targeted relief sa mga vulnerable sectors sa bansa at paglalaan ng unconditional cash transfers na P2,400 para sa bottom 50% ng mga households.

Dahil kung itataas ang minimum jeepney fare at minimum wage ay mangangahulugan rin ito ng pagtaas ng inflation rate.

- Mer Layson-



JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 22-01 Series of 2022

Subject: GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE BUSINESSES REITERATING THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO ONLINE BUSINESSES AND CONSUMERS

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted traditional business models and reimagined economic structures...

WHEREAS, the DTI launched the e-Commerce Philippines 2022 Roadmap which aims to pursue an e-Commerce policy agenda...

WHEREAS, Section 29 of Republic Act No. 8732, or the "Electronic Commerce Act", authorizes the DTI to supervise the promotion and development of electronic commerce...

WHEREAS, there is a need to issue a policy directive to implement existing and prevailing trade and industry laws to address the need to improve the regulation of online selling activities...

WHEREAS, pursuant Executive Order No. 292, or the Administrative Code of 1987:

- 1. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall formulate and implement policies, plans, and programs relative to the regulation of trade, industry, and investments... 2. The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall promulgate and enforce all laws, rules and regulations governing the conservation and proper utilization of agricultural and fishery resources...

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 913, dated 07 October 1983, vests in the DTI the power to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provision and intent of trade and industry laws...

WHEREAS, Section 125 of Executive Order No. 94, dated 04 October 1947, vests in the DOH the protection of the health of the people, the maintenance of sanitary conditions, and the proper enforcement of the laws and regulations relative to health, sanitation, food drugs and narcotics, alarm housing, garbage and other waste disposal.

WHEREAS, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), pursuant to Section 5 (e), and (o) of Republic Act No. 3711 or the "Food and Drug Administration Act of 2007", as an office under the DOH, has the power...

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 9 of Republic Act No. 7394, or the Consumer Act of the Philippines, the DTI established the CONSUMERNET, on 12 November 1998, in order to facilitate the flow of consumer protection information and to provide a speedy resolution of consumer complaints.

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 5293, or the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines, mandates the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) to coordinate with other government agencies and the private sector efforts to formulate and implement plans and policies to strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights in the country...

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10173, or the "Data Privacy Act of 2012", authorizes the National Privacy Commission (NPC) to coordinate with other government agencies and the private sector on efforts to formulate and implement plans and policies to strengthen the protection of personal information in the country.

WHEREAS, on 09 March 2020, the Philippines, through the NPC, became an official participant in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Cross-Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) system, committing itself to protect personal data through enforceable standards, accountability, risk-based protection, consumer-friendly complaints handling, consumer empowerment, consistent protection, and cross-border enforcement cooperation.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the above-mentioned and subject to the limitations of their mandates conferred by law, the DTI, DA, DENR, DOH, IPOPHL, NPC, hereby promulgate the following guidelines through this Joint Administrative Order (JAO).

I. PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

SEC. 1. OBJECTIVE.

The JAO aims to increase consumer confidence in business-to-consumer (B2C) and business-to-business (B2B) e-Commerce transactions. It seeks to ensure that e-Commerce platforms, electronic retailers (e-retailers), and online merchants are properly guided about the rules, regulations, and responsibilities in the conduct of their online business...

SEC. 2. SCOPE AND COVERAGE.

The JAO effectively reiterates existing policies, procedures and guidelines that should apply to online businesses. This JAO likewise reiterates the procedures and remedies that online consumers are entitled to.

This JAO shall cover all online businesses, whether natural or juridical, formal or informal, that are engaged in electronic transactions, including, but not limited to the sale, procurement, or treatment of goods, digital content/products, digital financial services, entertainment services, online travel services, transport and delivery services, and education services. Further, online businesses shall include but shall not be limited to e-Commerce platforms, online sellers, merchants, e-marketplaces, and e-retailers as defined in Section 4 of the JAO.

SEC. 3. APPLICABILITY OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

The laws applicable to physical or offline businesses are, as far as practicable, equally applicable to online businesses. Violations of relevant and pertinent laws governing

commerce, including but not limited to the Consumer Act of the Philippines, Electronic Commerce Act, and Data Privacy Act of 2012 shall be penalized with the same penalties as provided in the applicable laws.

Unless expressly specified, nothing in this JAO shall be construed as to diminish or deprive the regulatory jurisdiction conferred by law upon other government agencies, including Local Government Units (LGUs).

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

As used in this JAO, the following terms are defined to mean:

- 4.1 Business to Business (B2B) transaction - refers to internet transactions conducted over intranets that facilitate business to business electronic sales of new and used merchandise using the internet. 4.2 Business to Consumer (B2C) transaction - refers to the act or process of selling or providing goods or services by businesses to consumers, whether for a profit or not. 4.3 Consumer - refers to a person who is a purchaser, lessee, recipient, or prospective purchaser, lessor or recipient of consumer products, services, advertising or promotion, credit, technology, and other items in e-Commerce; 4.4 Derivatives - refer to a substance or material extracted or taken from wildlife such as but not limited to blood, saliva, oils, resins, gums, honey, coconut, fur, tannin, urine, serum, spores, pollen and the like; a compound directly or indirectly produced from wildlife and/or products produced from wildlife and wildlife products; 4.5 Digital financial services - refer to services of a financial nature that are made available to the public through the internet, including banking services, insurance and insurance-related services, payment and money transmission services, remittance services, lending services, investment services, and other similar or related services; 4.6 Digital content or product - refers to data which is produced and supplied in electronic form; 4.7 Education service - refers to services designed to promote, impart, share, source, or review knowledge, and to those intended to assist, facilitate, or improve learning, through an online platform, application, website, webpage, social media account, or other similar platform operated by the provider for profit, regardless of whether the provider is authorized to engage in e-Commerce in the Philippines. Moreover, it is commonly referring to four categories: Primary Education Services; Secondary Education Services; Higher (Tertiary) Education Services; and Adult Education; 4.8 Electronic commerce or e-Commerce - refers to the production, distribution, marketing, sale, or delivery of goods and services by electronic means; 4.9 Electronic data message - refers to information generated, sent, received or stored by electronic, optical or similar means; 4.10 Electronic transaction - refers to the sale or purchase of goods or services, whether between businesses, households, individuals, governments, and other public or private organizations, conducted over computer-mediated networks. The goods and services are ordered over those networks, but the payment and the ultimate delivery of the goods or services may be conducted online or off-line. 4.11 E-Commerce platform - refers to a natural or juridical person that solicits or facilitates the purchase, procurement, or use of goods and services, with the presence and use of monetary transactions, including using, developing, creating, or providing digital content through digital platforms, websites, and marketplaces, with functions which connects and encourages consumers, online merchants, sellers, and retailers to enter into commercial transactions. 4.12 E-marketplace - refers to an online intermediary that allows participating merchants to exchange information about products or services to enter into an electronic commerce transaction, which may or may not provide information/services about payments and logistic; 4.13 E-retailer - refers to an organization selling products or services directly to customers online. 4.14 Goods - refer to physically or digitally produced items over which ownership rights may be established, and whose economic ownership may be passed from one to another by engaging in transactions; For purposes of this JAO, goods shall include, but not be limited to live animals and seeds. 4.15 Online business - refers to any commercial activity over the internet, whether buying or selling goods and/or services directly to consumers or through a platform, or any business that facilitates commercial transactions over the internet between businesses and consumers. Online businesses shall include e-Commerce platforms, e-marketplaces, online sellers/merchants and e-retailers (e-retailers) as defined in this section. 4.16 Online travel services - refer to services that facilitate the reservation, purchase or discounting of flights, hotel accommodations, and vacation rental spaces, through an online platform, application, website, webpage, social media account, or other similar platform operated by the provider, regardless of whether the provider is authorized to engage in e-Commerce in the Philippines. 4.17 Online seller or merchant - refers to an organization or retailer selling products or services to customers through an e-marketplace. 4.18 Transport and Delivery Services - refers to the delivery of food, goods or other merchandise, or of personal transport services and other courier services, contracted through an online platform, application, website, webpage, social media account, or other similar platform operated by the provider, regardless of whether the provider is authorized to engage in e-Commerce in the Philippines. 4.19 Wildlife - refers to wild forms and varieties of flora and fauna, in all developmental stages, including those which are in captivity or are being bred or propagated. 4.20 Wildlife by-product - refers to any part taken from wildlife species such as flesh, hides, antlers, feathers, leather, fur, internal organs, bones, roes, trunks, tusks, pelts, hoofs, branches, leaves, stems, flowers, scales, scutes, shells, coral parts, carapace and the like, or whole dead body of wildlife in its preserved/dried state, including compounds indirectly produced in a biochemical process or cycle.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF ONLINE BUSINESSES AND PROTECTION OF CONSUMERS

SEC. 5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF ONLINE BUSINESSES.

To build trust in e-Commerce and to protect and uphold the interest of consumers at all times, online businesses shall comply with all Philippine laws, rules and regulations, bearing in mind the following principles of the ASEAN Online Business Code of Conduct:

- 5.1 Fair Treatment of Consumers. Online businesses shall refrain from illegal, fraudulent, unethical, or unfair business practices that may harm consumers. 5.2 Upholding Responsibilities. Online businesses shall value consumer rights to the same extent as traditional brick-and-mortar businesses. 5.3 Compliance with Laws and Regulations. Online businesses shall observe and comply with the policies, laws and regulations in the countries where their goods and services are marketed. 5.4 Conformance to Local Standards. Online businesses shall apply the necessary standards and provide accurate information in the local language of the countries where their goods and services are marketed. 5.5 Ensured Quality and Safety. Online businesses shall ensure shared responsibility along the entire supply chain. They shall not compromise product, health, and food safety, not offer products which have been recalled, banned or prohibited, and shall ensure that their services are of highest quality. 5.6 Honest and Truthful Communication. Online businesses shall provide easily accessible, complete, and correct information about their goods and services, and adhere to fair advertising and marketing practices. 5.7 Price Transparency. Online businesses shall ensure transparency and openness regarding their prices, including any additional costs, such as customs duties, currency conversion, shipping, delivery, taxes, service/processing fees, and convenience fees.

5.8 Proper Recordkeeping. Online businesses shall keep proper records of purchase, provide complete records of the goods purchased, and have them delivered in the promised time and described condition.

5.9 Review and Cancellation Options. Online businesses shall offer options to allow consumers to review their transactions prior to final purchase, and if cancellation and allow consumers to review their transaction before making the final purchase, and to withdraw from a confirmed transaction in appropriate circumstances. Fraudulent acts such as online businesses and consumers shall be dealt with in accordance with existing penal laws.

5.10 Responsive Consumer Complaint and Redress System. Online businesses shall take consumer complaints seriously, establish a fair and transparent system to address complaints, and provide appropriate compensation, such as refund, repair, and/or replacement.

5.11 Consumer Information Security. Online businesses shall secure the personal information of consumers, actively protect their privacy, be transparent about processing personal data, and if appropriate under the circumstances, ask for permission prior to any personal data processing activity.

5.12 Online Payment Security. Online businesses shall ensure that online payments made are safe and secure. They shall safeguard sensitive data by choosing digital payment platforms with the appropriate security technology and protocols, such as encryption or SSL, and display trust certificates to prove it.

5.13 Distance from Online Spamming. Online businesses shall avoid online spamming. They shall allow consumers to choose whether they wish to receive commercial messages by e-mail or other electronic means, and provide adequate mechanisms for them to opt-out from the same.

5.14 Non-proliferation of Fake Online Reviews. Online businesses shall not restrict the ability of consumers to make critical or negative reviews of goods or services, or spread wrong information about competitors.

5.15 Consumer Education on Online Risks. Online businesses shall educate consumers about (online) risks. They shall help consumers in understanding the risks of online transactions, and provide complaint guidance if needed.

SEC. 6. PROTECTION OF ONLINE CONSUMERS AGAINST HAZARDS TO HEALTH AND SAFETY.

Online businesses are reminded of the following laws, among others, in order to protect the public against hazards to health and safety:

- 6.1 R.A. No. 4109 otherwise known as the "Standards Law" shall also apply to all online businesses. This includes compliance to all Department Administrative Orders issued by DTI particularly the Technical Regulations issued to ensure and certify product quality and safety. 6.2 R.A. No. 9211 or the "Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003" and E.O. No. 106 s. 2020, shall also apply to ensure that online businesses abide with the restrictions set forth on advertising, promotions, and access of minors, in order to further protect the consumers against the hazards to health and safety of tobacco, vapor products and heated tobacco products. 6.3 R.A. No. 10611 or the "Food and Safety Act of 2013", P.D. No. 1619 s. 1979, and FDA Circular No. 2019-006, shall also apply to ensure that online businesses abide with the restrictions set forth on advertising and promotions and access of minors, in order to further protect the consumers against the hazards to health and safety of alcoholic beverages. 6.4 DA regulations such as, but not limited to, proper handling and stewardship shall also apply to the offer and sale of agricultural products online, such as fertilizers, and pesticides, whether conventional, bio-tech-based or those with plant incorporated protectants. 6.5 All online businesses must comply with DTI Memorandum Circular No. 21-05, series of 2021 which enumerates the eighty-seven (87) products and systems covered under the BPS Mandatory Product Certification Schemes, and structured into three (3) product "groups" - Electrical and Electronic Products, Mechanical/Building and Construction Materials, and Change and Other Consumer Products and Systems. The latest list of products is attached to Annex A. Such list may be updated or revised by the BPS in accordance with a memo. 6.6 Requirement for products covered under the DTI-BPS Mandatory Certification Schemes. 6.6.1 Online platforms, including its sellers, merchants, or e-retailers engaged in the sale of products covered under the DTI Bureau of Philippine Standards (DTI-BPS) Mandatory Product Certification Schemes shall ensure that such products sold in online platforms bear a valid Philippine Standard (PS) Quality and/or Safety Certification Mark, Import Commodity Clearance (ICC) sticker, or any certification mark approved and issued by the DTI-BPS. 6.6.2 Manufacturers and importers of the products covered under the BPS Mandatory Certification Schemes shall secure the PS Mark or ICC stickers from the BPS. Only the manufacturer or importer to whom the PS License or ICC certificate is granted shall be allowed to affix the PS Mark or ICC stickers, respectively, on their products consistent with the requirements of the DTI Department Administrative Order (DAO) No. 4, Series of 2008, DAO No. 5, Series of 2008, their respective implementing Rules and Regulations and other applicable DTI technical regulations related to the BPS Mandatory Product Certification Schemes. The nature of requirements and procedure to apply for a PS Mark License ICC certificate and stickers, as attached as Annex B.

SEC. 7. PROTECTION OF ONLINE CONSUMERS AGAINST DECEPTIVE, UNFAIR AND UNCONSCIONABLE SALES AND PRACTICES.

Online businesses are reminded of the following laws, among others, in order to protect the public against deceptive, unfair and unconscionable sales acts and practices:

- 7.1 Prohibition Against Deceptive Online Sales Acts or Practices - Online businesses are covered by Article 50 of R.A. No. 7394 and Sections 155 i, 155.2, and 165.2(b) of R.A. No. 8293 or otherwise known as the "Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines", which declare deceptive acts or practices by a seller or supplier in connection with a consumer transaction as a violation. This shall occur before, during or after the transaction, in cases where: 7.1.1 A consumer product or service has the sponsorship, approval, performance, characteristics, ingredients, accessories, uses, or benefits it does not have; 7.1.2 A consumer product or service is of a particular standard, quality grade, style, shape, size, color, or model when in fact it is not; 7.1.3 A consumer product is new, original or unused, when in fact it is a deteriorated, altered, repacked, unlabeled, mislabeled, unknown, reconditioned, reclaimed or second-hand state; 7.1.4 A consumer product or service is available to the consumer for a reason that is different from the fact; 7.1.5 A consumer product or service has been supplied in accordance with the previous representation when in fact it is not; 7.1.6 A consumer product or service can be supplied in a quantity greater than the supplier attests; 7.1.7 A service, or repair of a consumer product is needed when in fact it is not; 7.1.8 A specific price advantage of a consumer product exists when in fact it does not; 7.1.9 The sales act or practice involves or does not involve a warranty, a disclaimer of warranties, particular warranty terms or other rights, remedies or obligations if the indication is false; 7.1.10 The seller or supplier represents that he has a sponsorship, approval, or affiliation he does not have; 7.1.11 The seller or supplier of a product or service has used a trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark, imprint, or device, or any likeness thereof, without the authorization of the owner; 7.1.12 The seller or supplier of a product is not authorized by the trademark holder as a distributor/master/seller of the product.



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- 7.1.13 The seller or supplier uses the traditional knowledge of indigenous people on wild food plants, medicinal plants, and animal parts, in sales...
7.1.14 The seller or supplier misrepresents their products as proprietary...
7.2 Unfair or Unconscionable Sales Act or Practices - Online businesses are also covered by Article 52 of R.A. No. 7394 and Sections 155.1, 155.2, and 185.2(b) of R.A. No. 8293...

SEC. 8. RESPONSIBILITIES OF ONLINE BUSINESSES ON CONSUMER PRODUCT AND SERVICE WARRANTIES, PRICE TAG PLACEMENT, AND LABELING.

- 8.1. Consumer Product and Service Warranty - Online businesses shall comply with the pertinent rules on provision of warranty under the Civil Code and under Title III of R.A. No. 7394.
8.2. Labeling Requirements - Online businesses shall comply with the following labeling requirements under R.A. No. 7394, R.A. No. 9711, and other pertinent and relevant laws:
8.2.1 The minimum labelling requirements for consumer products whether manufactured locally or imported under Article 77;
8.2.2 Additional labeling and packaging requirements necessary to prevent the deception of the consumer or to facilitate value comparisons as to any consumer product under Article 79;
8.2.3 Additional labeling requirements for food under Article 94;
8.2.4 Labeling of drugs under Article 86 and Section 8 of R.A. No. 6675, as amended by R.A. No. 9502 otherwise known as the "Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2009";
8.2.5 Additional labeling requirements for cosmetics under Article 87;
8.2.6 Branstark substitutes and branstark supplements shall follow the guidelines set in the Milk Code, in terms of labelling (Section 19 of EO 51);
8.2.7 Toys shall comply with the appropriate provisions on safety labeling and manufacturer's markings found in the Philippine National Standards for the safety of toys (Section 4 of R.A. No. 10620 otherwise known as the "Toy and Game Safety Labeling Act of 2013");
8.2.8 Household urban hazardous substances must bear warning labels particular to the hazards they present (Chapter IV/Article 91 of R.A. No. 7394, Section 1.n. of Presidential Decree (PD) No. 881);
8.2.9 Vaping products and heated tobacco products must bear Graphic Health Warnings (Sec. 1 of R.A. No. 11346);
8.2.10 Labeling requirements for tobacco products under R.A. No. 9211; and
8.2.11 Labeling requirements for alcoholic beverages under R.A. No. 10611 and FDA Circular No. 2019-006.

SEC. 9. REGULATED, RESTRICTED, AND PROHIBITED ITEMS.

Online businesses shall exhibit the corresponding license or permit number as regards the regulated items for sale as prescribed by regulatory agencies. Provided that, delivery platforms shall not be liable for transport of these items when the same cannot, on the face of the package be determined to be in violation of this clause. The liability of the delivery platform in this instance shall be limited to those provided in Section 13.

SEC. 10. DATA PRIVACY.

- This JAO defines the responsibilities of online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers under R.A. No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act, which seeks to ensure privacy protection to ensure transparency, legitimate purpose, and proportionality in data collection and processing. Through the NPC, the law regulates the collection, recording, organization, storage, updating or modification, retrieval, consultation, use, consolidation, blocking, ensuring, or destruction of personal data.
10.1 Online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers particularly those that sell through their own websites, or through social media marketplaces are expected to handle all personal data of their consumers with the utmost care and respect.
10.2 Personal information collected by the online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers shall be retained only for as long as necessary:
a. For the fulfillment of the declared, specified, and legitimate purpose, or when the processing relevant to the purpose has been terminated;
b. For the establishment, exercise or defense of legal claims;
c. For legitimate business purposes, which must be consistent with standards followed by the applicable industry as approved by appropriate government agency; or
d. As provided by law.
10.3 Personal data shall be disposed of or discarded in a secure manner that would prevent further processing, unauthorized access, or disclosure to any other party or the public, or prejudice the interests of the data subjects. Security measures for the protection of personal data should be implemented.

- 10.4 Online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers shall publish/post in their websites or online platforms, or any other similar platform, a Privacy Notice which shall provide consumers with information regarding the purpose and extent of the processing of their personal data in relation to their transactions, including if applicable, any data sharing, profiling, direct marketing, or the existence of automated decision-making, as well as any other authorized further processing;
10.5 Online merchants that operate their own online application, or any other similar platform are prohibited from asking unnecessary permissions from the consumers;
10.6 Prior to the collection of personal data of the consumers, the online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers must determine the most appropriate lawful criteria for such processing, which in the case of sale-related processing need not necessarily be consent. In such a case, processing may still be lawful if based on a contract or legitimate interest of either or both the seller and the buyer;
10.7 All personal data supplied by consumers to online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers shall be secured through the implementation of reasonable and appropriate security measures intended for the protection of personal data and shall not be used for purposes not authorized by the consumers;
10.8 Upon collection and processing of the personal data, the online sellers shall inform the consumers of their data privacy rights under the Data Privacy Act, namely:
a. Right to information
b. Right to object
c. Right to access
d. Right to correct
e. Right to erase
f. Right to damages
g. Right to data portability
h. Right to file a complaint
10.9 Upon request by public authorities pursuant to their respective mandates and in accordance with the provisions of the Data Privacy Act of 2012, online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers may lawfully disclose personal information to said public authorities, provided, that the request particularly describes the personal information asked for and indicate the relevance of such information to an ongoing investigation.

III. LIABILITIES OF ONLINE BUSINESSES

SEC. 11. LIABILITY FOR DEFECTIVE PRODUCT AND SERVICE.

Online businesses are covered by Title III, Chapter V of the R.A. No. 7394, particularly Article 98 (in relation to Article 97) which provides for the liability of the manufacturer, producer, importer, or seller of defective products.
11.1 Online merchants or sellers are liable when it is not possible to identify the manufacturer, builder, producer or importer of a defective product;
11.2 Online merchants or sellers shall be held liable when the product is supplied, without clear identification of the manufacturer, producer, builder or importer; and
11.3 Online merchants or sellers shall be held liable when the perishable goods were not adequately preserved.

SEC. 12. LIABILITY FOR THE SALE OF COUNTERFEIT AND PIRATED GOODS.

- The online sale of fake and/or pirated goods is a violation of R.A. No. 8293 and R.A. No. 8203, otherwise known as the "Special Law on Counterfeit Drugs." Online businesses shall only sell original, genuine, licensed, or unexpired goods.
12.1 Should any person holding Intellectual Property (IP) rights, whether or not engaged in selling of goods or services, find that their protected works, creations, designs, trademarks, patented inventions, or other IP are being infringed by unauthorized sellers or merchants online, they may request the online e-commerce platform used by the infringer to take down the infringing goods/contents. In the event that the online e-commerce platform fails to respond to the take down request of the Intellectual Property (IP) rights holder, the rights holder may notify the IOPPHL for appropriate action.
12.2 E-Commerce platforms have the authority to enforce the rights of the IP holder. In accordance with their internal guidelines, the usual modes of enforcement by platforms include temporary or permanent suspension or restriction of the infringing seller's accounts.
12.3 Reports or complaints of possible infringement shall be transmitted by the DTI to the brand owners so that they may check and report the same to the IOPPHL for action.
12.4 In addition to the IOPPHL, complaints regarding counterfeit and pirated goods may also be brought before other regulatory agencies having jurisdiction over the same such as, but not limited to, the Optical Media Board and the FDA.
12.5 The following persons shall be liable for violations of R.A. No. 8203:
12.5.1 The manufacturer, exporter or importer of the counterfeit drugs and their agents. Provided, That the agents shall be liable only upon proof of actual or constructive knowledge that the drugs are counterfeit;
12.5.2 The seller, distributor, trafficker, broker or donor and their agents, upon proof of actual or constructive knowledge that the drugs sold, distributed, offered or consumed are counterfeit drugs;
12.5.3 The possessor of counterfeit drugs as provided in Section 4 (b) of R.A. No. 8203;
12.5.4 The manager, operator or lessee of the laboratory or laboratory facilities used in the manufacture of counterfeit drugs;
12.5.5 The owner, proprietor, administrator or manager of the drugstore, hospital pharmacy or dispensary, laboratory or other outlets or premises where the counterfeit drug is found who induces, causes or allows the commission of any act herein prohibited;
12.5.6 The registered pharmacist of the outlet where the counterfeit drug is sold or found, who sells or dispenses such drug to a third party and who has actual or constructive knowledge that said drug is counterfeit; and
12.5.7 Should the offense be committed by a juridical person the president, general manager, the managing partner, chief operating officer or the person who directly induces, causes or knowingly allows the commission of the offense shall be penalized.

SEC. 13. LIABILITY OF E-COMMERCE PLATFORMS AND E-MARKETPLACES.

- E-Commerce platforms, e-marketplaces, and the like, shall be treated, and shall be held liable, in the same manner as online sellers, merchants, and e-retailers, when the latter commits any violation of the laws implemented by these rules.
E-Commerce platforms, e-marketplaces, and the like, shall verify if the goods sold by online sellers or merchants, and e-retailers, in their respective platforms are regulated, prohibited, original, genuine, licensed, or unexpired.
13.2 In case of a prima facie violation of any pertinent laws or regulations committed in an online post by the online seller or merchant, e-retailer, e-commerce platform, e-marketplace, and the like, the concerned authority shall issue a notice giving the violator a maximum period of three (3) calendar days from receipt thereof, within which to take down such post, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate administrative actions against all violators.
Failure to take down the post within three (3) calendar days shall be construed as an intentional and overt act that shall aggravate the offense charged.
13.3 The written notice shall indicate specific information, such as, but not limited to:
a. The URL of the content in question;
b. The relevant provision or information on the asserted rights or law infringed or violated; and
c. Brief explanation of why the content infringes or violates rights or the law.
13.4 E-Commerce platforms, e-marketplaces, and the like, may appeal the take down notice, following the procedures set under the applicable laws if, in their reasonable determination, there is no violation of any law or regulation. However, no repeating may be allowed pending appeal.
13.5 Delivery platforms shall be liable in the same manner as, online sellers, merchants, and e-retailers only upon notice that they are carrying or delivering restricted, prohibited or infringing items.

- 13.6 The term "use in commerce" under Section 155.1 of R.A. No. 8293 shall include the act of sending marketing emails, publishing advertisements online or through traditional media, and similar acts designed to solicit business. The use of registered marks as well as copies or reproductions thereof in marketing emails and advertisements, without the authority of the trademark owner, shall be deemed an act of infringement under Section 155.1 of R.A. No. 8293.

- 13.7 In general, it shall be unlawful for e-Commerce platforms, e-marketplaces, and the like, to:
-a. Disseminate or to cause the dissemination of any false, deceptive or misleading advertisement by mail or in commerce by print, radio, television, outdoor advertisement, or any other medium, for the purpose of inducing or which is likely to induce directly or indirectly the purchase of products or services;
b. Advertise any food, drug, cosmetic, device, or hazardous substance in a manner that is false, misleading or deceptive, or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding its character, value, quantity, composition, merit, or safety;
c. Advertise any food, drug, cosmetic, device, or hazardous substance, unless such product is duly registered and approved by the concerned department for use in any advertisement.

- 13.8 Regulatory Agencies shall designate in writing their respective point of contact, who shall be fully authorized to issue notice of violations to digital platforms and/or e-marketplaces. Moreover, all regulatory agencies shall submit the names of the designated point persons, including their contact details (verified email address and mobile numbers) to DTI E-commerce Division (DTI-ECD), for consolidation, within 7 days from the effectivity of this JAO.
In case there will be changes on the designated pointofcontact persons, including their contact details (verified email address and active mobile numbers), the same shall be conveyed to DTI-ECD, immediately.

- 13.9 Upon the effectivity of this JAO, e-Commerce platforms and e-market places are directed to enact and strictly enforce internal mechanisms or rules aimed to prohibit online sellers or merchants, previously found administratively liable for violation of any pertinent law, rule or regulation, from further selling, posting or offering items for sale in their respective platforms.
Failure to enact, or strictly enforce, such internal mechanisms or rules shall be construed as an intentional and overt act that shall aggravate the offense charged.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

SEC. 14. RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

The provisions of this JAO shall be implemented in full effect by the concerned government agencies, in the exercise of their mandate and jurisdiction, in order to establish a trustworthy and conducive e-Commerce environment. Some of these agencies are:
14.1 The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), with respect to registration and monitoring of online sellers, merchants, or e-retailers including handling of consumer complaints.
14.2 The Department of Agriculture (DA), with respect to the monitoring and regulation of the manufacture and marketing of agricultural products for the protection of the public from the inherent risk of these products; and in the promotion and protection of animal health and welfare. This shall cover the following pertinent DA offices: (1) the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) for fertilizers, pesticides and seeds with pip and (2) the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) for seeds.
14.3 The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), with respect to the monitoring and regulation of the importation, manufacture, processing, handling, storage, transport, sale, distribution, use and disposal of, and/or use and testing of health products, including food, drugs, cosmetics, devices, biologicals, vaccines, in-vitro diagnostic reagents, household/urban hazardous substances, household/urban pesticides, toys and childcare articles to protect the health of the consumer.
14.4 The Department of Health (DOH), through the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), with respect to the regulation of the manufacture, importation, exportation, distribution, sale, offer for sale, transfer, promotion, advertisement, sponsorship of, and/or use and testing of health products, including food, drugs, cosmetics, devices, biologicals, vaccines, in-vitro diagnostic reagents, household/urban hazardous substances, household/urban pesticides, toys and childcare articles to protect the health of the consumer.
14.5 The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IOPPHL), with respect to the protection of intellectual property rights in the conduct of e-Commerce and its coordination with online e-Commerce platforms and brand owners in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding addressing counterfeit and pirated goods online.
14.6 The National Privacy Commission (NPC), with respect to the protection of data privacy rights and regulation of the processing of personal data in the conduct of e-Commerce transactions.

SEC. 15. JOINT UNDERTAKING OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

This JAO shall enjoin all government agencies concerned to coordinate and assist in the enforcement of this JAO, in respect to the matters falling under their respective jurisdictions.

The above-mentioned government agencies shall undertake the following:

- 15.1 Work with e-Commerce platforms to establish a mechanism to prevent or remove or take down, within a reasonable period, listings on online platforms of prohibited or regulated but unregistered products;
15.2 Implement advocacy campaigns for consumers and businesses on government regulations relative to the marketing, distribution and sale of regulated products;
15.3 Explore the possibility of jointly developing a system with e-Commerce platforms, including the use of an Application Programming Interface (API), that will link such Party's respective systems to facilitate the transfer of information regarding listing of keywords, images, and other information on regulated products for regular sweeping by the online platforms; and
15.4 Develop a system to exchange intelligence/information on prohibited and regulated items monitored online, including automatic sharing of information with the appropriate regulatory agency, on possible violations detected/discovered. This may include the sharing of and access to a database of products/items containing sufficient information, keywords, content, for the purpose.

V. REMEDIES OF CONSUMERS

SEC. 16. PROVISION OF ADEQUATE RIGHTS AND MEANS OF REDRESS.

- 16.1 NO WRONG-DOOR POLICY - In accordance with Department Administrative Order No. 20-02, series of 2020, any consumer complaint filed with the DTI, whether or not the subject matter falls under its jurisdiction, shall be accepted for appropriate assistance, subject to the limitations imposed by law. The Department shall assist the consumer by guiding them to and forwarding their complaint to the appropriate agency having proper jurisdiction over the subject matter.
16.2 CONSUMER COMPLAINTS MECHANISM - The handling of consumer complaints shall be done in accordance with the rules of the government agency having jurisdiction over the product or service complained of. However, the consumer may opt to seek primary resolution through the internal complaint mechanism of the online business before resorting to intervention by the DTI or any other regulatory agency. Where the DTI is concerned, complaints against online businesses shall be made and handled in accordance with DTI Department Administrative Order 20-02, series of 2020. The established procedure for all types of consumer complaints brought before the DTI, whether against offline (brick and mortar) or online businesses shall apply to online consumers.
16.2.1 Online consumers may file complaints with the DTI regarding their concerns via the following modes:
a. Walk-in at its national or provincial offices;
b. Consumer care hotline at 1-384;
c. SMS at 09176343330; and
d. Written complaints delivered through postal or messengerial service.



18.22 Complaints can also be filed electronically through any of the following:

- DTI website. Consumers must accomplish Complaint Form DTI Consumer Care Facebook page
- Email to consumercare@dti.gov.ph, ask@dti.gov.ph or help@dti.gov.ph addressed to the Director of the Fair Trade Enforcement Bureau (FTEB) or the appropriate official of any of the DTI's provincial offices, with the following details:
 - Complete name, address, email and contact number of complainant with attached government-issued ID
 - Narration of facts
 - Email thread, screen shots, or scanned proof of transaction

18.23 Complaint Handling Process

- When DTI receives a consumer complaint, the subject matter of which is within the ambit of its primary jurisdiction, it shall schedule the parties to the complainant for appropriate Mediation within seven (7) days of receipt.
- Upon agreement of both parties, Mediation may be extended for no longer than ten (10) working days.
- If the controversy has not been resolved through Mediation, the matter shall be scheduled for Adjudication, and a decision shall be rendered within fifteen (15) working days from submission for decision.
- The decision of the Consumer Arbitration Officer shall become final within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof, unless appealed to the Secretary of Trade and Industry. The Secretary shall render a decision on appeal within thirty (30) working days from the submission of appeal.
- The decision of the Secretary of Trade shall become final and executory after fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof, unless a petition for certiorari is filed with the proper court, in accordance with Article 166 of the Consumer Act of the Philippines.
- The Consumer complaints handling process flow chart is hereby attached as Annex D.

- 183 Online sellers, merchants, or E-retailers and consumers are advised that their communications, whether done via social media, built-in communication services on e-Commerce platforms, or any other form of electronic communication using an electronic device, may constitute an electronic data message. Screenshots of such electronic communications may be used as evidence to prove a fact or establish a right in administrative or judicial proceedings, subject to the relevant rules issued by the Supreme Court.

A.M. No. 01-7-01-3C provides for the Rules on Electronic Evidence, to implement the legal recognition, admissibility, and enforcement of electronic documents and signatures in court.

VI. PENALTIES

SEC. 17. PENALTIES.

All online businesses may be held liable for violations against laws, rules and regulations covered under this Joint Administrative Order (JAO) and other applicable laws and issuances. Non-exhaustive list of penalties is reflected in Annex E.

VII. FINAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 18. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.

Should any provision of this Order or any part thereof be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of other provisions not so declared shall not be affected by such declaration.

SEC. 19. REPEALING CLAUSE.

All previous Orders and Issuances which are inconsistent with this Order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 20. PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVITY.

This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation, and the submission of a copy hereof to the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of the University of the Philippines.

Issued this 4th day of March 2022.

RAMON M. LOPEZ
Secretary
Department of Agriculture

WILLIAM D. DAR, PH.D.
Secretary
Department of Agriculture

DR. JUAN DU T. LUQUE III
Secretary
Department of Health

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, Secretary
Department of Environment
and Natural Resources

ATTY. ROWEL S. BARBA
Director General
Intellectual Property Office
of the Philippines

ATTY. JOHN HENRY DU NAGA
Commissioner
National Privacy Commission

WITNESSED BY:

DR. RUTH B. CASTELO
Undersecretary
Consumer Protection Group
Department of Trade and Industry

DR. RICARDO T. PACHECO
Assistant Secretary
e-Commerce Lead
Department of Trade and Industry

ANNEX A: LIST OF PRODUCTS UNDER MANDATORY PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

LIST OF PRODUCTS UNDER MANDATORY PRODUCT CERTIFICATION
AS OF 25 JANUARY 2021

Products	Philippine National Standards (as of Jan 25, 2021)
I. ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL GOODS Testing Duration: approx. 4-15 days	
Household Appliances	
Electric fans	PNS IEC 60335-2-80:2016 (IEC published 2015)
Electric irons	PNS IEC 60335-2-3:2005 (IEC published 2002)
Electric blenders	PNS IEC 60335-2-14:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Microwave ovens	PNS IEC 60335-2-25:2015 (IEC published 2014)
Electric rice cookers	PNS IEC 60335-2-15:2015 (IEC published 2012)
Electric airpots	PNS IEC 60335-2-15:2015 (IEC published 2012)
Electric coffeemakers	PNS IEC 60335-2-15:2015 (IEC published 2012)
Electric toaster	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Electric slowers	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)

Electric hot plates	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Electric grills	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Electric ovens	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Turbo broilers	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Induction cookers	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Washing machines	PNS IEC 60335-2-7:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Spin extractors	PNS IEC 60335-2-9:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Refrigerators	PNS 396-2:1987 Amd. 01:2000
Storage capacity 142 liters to 227 liters (8 to 8 cu. ft.)	
Storage capacity up to 567 liters (20 cu. ft.)	PNS IEC 60335-2-24:2013
Air conditioners	
Non-inverter, Window & Split-type up to 36,000 kJ/hr. cooling capacity	PNS 396-1:1998
Inverter, non-inverter, window-type and split-type air-conditioners, with not more than 250 V for single phase and 500 V for all other types and with cooling capacity up to 38,000 kJ/hr.	PNS IEC 60335-2-40:2013
Electric juicers	PNS IEC 60335-2-14:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Electric food mixers	PNS IEC 60335-2-14:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Electric food processors	PNS IEC 60335-2-14:2016 (IEC published 2012)
Electric kettles	PNS IEC 60335-2-15:2015 (IEC published 2012)
Electric pressure cookers	PNS IEC 60335-2-15:2015 (IEC published 2012)
Electric slow cookers	PNS IEC 60335-2-15:2015 (IEC published 2012)
Electric multi-cookers	PNS IEC 60335-2-15:2015 (IEC published 2012)
Consumer Electronics	
Television set	PNS IEC 60065:2013 (IEC published 2011)
CD/DVD/BD player	PNS IEC 60065:2013 (IEC published 2011)
Lighting and Wiring Devices	
Pre-heat / Magnetic ballasts	PNS IEC 61347-2-8:2002 (IEC 61347-2-8:2000)
Electronic ballasts	PNS IEC 61347-2-3:2002 with Amd. 1:2008
Self-ballasted lamps / Compact fluorescent lamps	PNS IEC 989:2008 (IEC published 1988)
Self-ballasted LED lamps	PNS IEC 62560:2012 (IEC 62560:2011)
Christmas lights / Lighting chains	PNS 188:2000
Double-capped fluorescent lamps	PNS IEC 61195:2008 (IEC 61195:1999)
Single-capped fluorescent lamps	PNS IEC 61195:2008 (IEC 61195:1999)
Incandescent lamps (Bulbs)	PNS 35-1:1996 (IEC 432-1:1993 Amd. 01:1995)
Edison screw lamps holders	PNS 42:1997 (IEC 238:1996)
Lamp holders or tubular fluorescent lamps	PNS 42:1997 (IEC 400:1996)
Starter holders	PNS 42:1997 (IEC 400:1996)
Lamp starters	PNS 45:1997 Amd. 01:1997 (IEC 155:1993 Amd. 01:1995)
Circuit breakers	
a) Moulded case	PNS 519:1991
b) Low voltage switchgear and control gear	PNS 1573-2:1997 (IEC 947-2:1995)
Fuses	
Fuseholders	PNS 56:1996 (ANSI/UL 512:1992)
PVC electrical tapes	PNS 79:1992
Plugs, Socket-outlets and Extension cord sets	
a) Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes	PNS 1485-1:1996 (IEC 884-1:1994)
b) Plugs and socket outlets for domestic and similar general use standards	PNS 1572:1997 (IEC 83:1975)
a) Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations	PNS 1485-1:1996 Amd. 01 & 02:1996 (IEC 608-1:1983 Amd. 01:1994 & Amd. 02:1995)
b) Snap switches for general use	PNS 57:1996 (UL 20:1995)
Knife switches	PNS 118:1988
PVC insulated flexible cords	PNS 163:1994
Thermoplastic electric wires and cables	PNS 35-1:2004
II. MECHANICAL, BUILDING, AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS Testing Duration: approx. 4-6 days	
Steel Products	
Bilgi steel pipes	PNS 26:1982 / PNS 26:2018
Deformed Steel Bars	PNS 49:2002
Equal-Leg Steel Angle Bars	PNS 657:2008
Rounded Steel Bars	PNS 211:2002
Low Carbon Steel Wires	PNS 113:2005
Steel Wire Nails	PNS 136:2000
Plastic Pipes and Ceramic Products	
Pipes (PP) for potable water supply	PNS 152:1987
Pipes (PE) for potable water supply	PNS ISO 4427:2002 Amd. 01:2002
Pipes (uPVC) for potable water supply	PNS 65:1993
uPVC rigid electrical conduit	PNS 14:1983 Amd. 01:1987
Pipes (PVC-U) for drain waste & vent	PNS 1950:2003 Contingendum 01:2003
Sanitary wares	PNS 156:2000
Cement and Other Construction Materials	
Portland cement	PNS 07:2018
Bleached hydraulic cement	PNS 63:2018
Phywood	PNS ISO 12448:2017
Ceramic Tiles	PNS ISO 13006:2016
III. CHEMICAL AND OTHER CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS Testing Duration: 3-60 days	
Chemical Products	
Motor Vehicle brake fluid	PNS 239M/VS 116:1988
Dry chemical portable fire extinguishers	PNS 15-1:1989
Carbon dioxide portable fire extinguishers	PNS 15-3:1991
Foam portable fire extinguishers	PNS 15-4:1991
Clean extinguishing agent - Halon substitute portable fire extinguishers	PNS 15-5:1996 Amd. 01:1997
Fireworks	PNS 1220-2:1994
Medical grade oxygen	PNS 103:1987
Automotive Related Products	
Safety belts (Seat belts)	PNS 1802:2000 Amd. 01:2002
Child Restraint Systems	PNS UNR 44:2016, PNS UNR 129:2016
Helmets and their visors	PNS UNR ECE 22:2007
Safety glass for automobiles	PNS 130:1988 Amd. 01:1998
Lead-Acid Storage Batteries	PNS 06:1987
Inner tubes for tires	PNS 34:2000
Tires for automotive vehicles	PNS 25:1994
Speed Limitation Device	PNS UNR 89:2016
Other Consumer Products	
Matches	PNS 06-1:2000
Lighters	PNS 47:1998 (ISO 9584:1995)
Monoblock chair stools	PNS 1478:1998
LPG cylinders for motor vehicles	PNS 04:1983
LPG cylinders for household use	PNS 03-1:2000
LPG cylinders repair	PNS 03-2:2000

ANNEX B: APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PS MARK, ICC STICKERS, COE, AND SOC

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PS MARK, ICC STICKERS, COE, AND SOC

#	Philippine Standard	Import Concessions Clearance	Certificate of Exemption	Statement of Confirmation
1	Article of Incorporation or Business Name and Sub-Contracting Agreement, if any	Packing List	Packing List	Packing List
2	Quality Manual	Import Entry (need not be submitted upon filing the application but shall be a requirement for the release of the ICC Certificate)	Import Entry (need not be submitted upon filing the application but shall be a requirement for the release of the ICC Certificate)	Import Entry (need not be submitted upon filing the application but shall be a requirement for the release of the ICC Certificate)
3	Brief description of manufacturing process	Commercial Invoice	Commercial Invoice	Commercial Invoice
4	Reference no. of the Product Identification File to include process flow, material, process control and drawings among others	Bill of Lading/Invoice Bill	Bill of Lading/Invoice Bill	Bill of Lading/Invoice Bill
5	Listing of measuring and testing equipment with nominal capacities and serial numbers of each inspection point and final product testing together with the evidence of ownership, such as official receipts	Summary of Batch Nos./Serial Nos. of Products	Summary of Batch Nos./Serial Nos. of Products	Summary of Batch Nos./Serial Nos. of Products
6	Brief description of equipment maintenance and calibration program for all testing and measuring equipment with their corresponding calibration certificates	a) DTI Business Name Registration (for single proprietor) b) SEC Certificate of Incorporation (for corporation)	a) DTI Business Name Registration (for single proprietor) b) SEC Certificate of Incorporation (for corporation)	a) DTI Business Name Registration (for single proprietor) b) SEC Certificate of Incorporation (for corporation)
7	Copies of labels, markings and logos etc. as per requirements of specific standard	a) Special Power of Attorney (for single proprietor) b) Board/Partners' Resolution (for corporation) / Notarized Secretary's Certificate stating the name of authorized company representative	a) Special Power of Attorney (for single proprietor) b) Board/Partners' Resolution (for corporation) / Notarized Secretary's Certificate stating the name of authorized company representative	a) Special Power of Attorney (for single proprietor) b) Board/Partners' Resolution (for corporation) / Notarized Secretary's Certificate stating the name of authorized company representative
8	Description of the supply distribution chain. If new business, identify the target market. If foreign company, identify the Philippine principal and describe the organizational relationship of the applicant/foreign holder and Philippine principal	Surety Bond	BPI Importers Clearance Certificate	Surety Bond (Valued at 10% of the nominal invoice value of the current shipment)
9	Facility map of the factory	BPI Importers Clearance Certificate	Current Proof of Billing (Office and Warehouse)	BPI Importers Clearance Certificate / COR
10	Undertaking to abide by the terms and conditions of the PS License (Annexed to Application Form)	Current Proof of Billing (Office and Warehouse)		Current Proof of Billing (Office and Warehouse)
11		ISO 9001 Certificate of the Manufacturer		Production Record
12	"Nothing follows"	Valid Test Report Other Documents: a) For reworked steel bars deformed steel bars and equal leg angle bars: - Submission of copy to BPS prior to importation - Mill Certificate, quality inspection report or its equivalent from the Manufacturer Updated list of distributor-dealers b) For motorcycle helmet and its electric: - Test report per brand per type per model - Certificate of Conformity from the Manufacturer that the batch imported conforms to the requirement of the standard prior to release from the Manufacturer's premises	"Nothing follows"	Letter Disbursements Audited Financial Statement Photocopy of PS License
13	"Nothing follows"			Lead Post Survey Report
14				Other documents
15				
16				

ANNEX C: NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF THE PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED ITEMS

NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF THE PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED ITEMS
This list may be revised or updated by the relevant regulatory agencies concerned

- Wildlife and wildlife by products and derivatives:
 - Wild plant/ferns, plant parts (i.e. Bark, leaves/buds, roots, wood, essential oils) and propagules (i.e. Living cuttings and genetic material), and seeds and seedlings of plant species listed under the cited appendixes; and threatened species and exotic species which are regulated, restricted by the Wildlife Act (R.A. 9147); Prohibited items: alien invasive species and wildlife species collected from the wild.
 - Live wild animals/fauna (including fingerlings, hatchlings, eggs, and other genetic material), unprocessed and processed by-products and derivatives of fauna listed under the cited appendixes and threatened species and exotic species which are restricted by the Wildlife Act (R.A. 9147); prohibited items: alien invasive species and wildlife species collected from the wild.
- Hazardous parts or remains.
- Fertilizers, pesticides (chemical and bio-control), other agricultural chemicals, and seeds with plant incorporated protectants, unless duly licensed or permitted under the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA); and seeds, conventional or biotech-treated, unless duly permitted under Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) regulations and in both instances, compliant with all DA rules and regulations providing for their registered entry in the Philippine market and in electronic commerce.

- iv. Toxic substances and hazardous wastes;
- v. Imported Recyclable Materials Containing Hazardous Substances (scrap metals; scrap plastics; electronic assemblies and scrap (including imported, second-hand or used electrical and electronic equipment; used oil; and fly ash);
- vi. Health products, including food, drugs, cosmetics, devices, biologicists, vaccines, in-vitro diagnostic reagents, household/urban hazardous substances, household/urban pesticides, toys and children articles, unless, duly licensed or permitted under the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and compliant to the rules and regulations providing for its regulated or controlled entry in electronic commerce;
- vii. Prohibited Food:
 - a. Listings containing medicinal claims - that is, a claim that the item is intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in humans and/or animals, contraception, inducing anaesthesia or otherwise preventing or interfering with the normal operation of a physiological function, whether permanently or temporarily, and whether by way of lamination, reducing or postponing, or increasing or accelerating, the operation of that function or in any other way (for example, pharmaceutical drugs, contact lenses, misbranded dietary supplements);
 - b. Noxious food items - Food which contains any prohibited substances or substances in excess of permitted proportions, adulterated food without fully informing buyer at the time of sale of the nature of the transaction;
 - c. Non-pasteurized dairy products:
 - i. Products marketed as breastmilk substitutes including infant formula, and other milk products, foods and beverages including bottle-fed complementary foods, when marketed or otherwise represented to be suitable, with or without modification, for use as a partial or total replacement of breastmilk; feeding bottles and teat in compliance with the provisions of E.O. 51 or the Milk Code and its implementing rules and regulations;
 - ii. Wild mushrooms; and
 - iii. Any other food items hazardous to human health.
- viii. Drugs, prescription-only medicines, pharmacy-only medicines, drug-like substances and associated paraphernalia;
- ix. Alcoholic beverages, unless duly licensed or permitted by the FDA and compliant with the rules and regulations providing for its regulated or controlled entry in electronic commerce, including restrictions in access and purchase by minors, and in advertising and promotion;
- x. Tobacco or tobacco related products, electronic cigarettes, e-pipes, and heated tobacco products, unless duly licensed, or permitted by the FDA, and compliant with the rules and regulations providing for its regulated or controlled entry in electronic commerce, including restrictions in access and purchase by minors, and in advertising and promotion;¹
- xi. Ionizing radiation sources and services/activities involving thereof, which include radiation devices and radioactive materials, and services/activities where such sources are used for medical and non-medical purposes; Unless, duly licensed or permitted under the FDA and/or the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) and compliant to the rules and regulations providing for its regulated or controlled entry in electronic commerce
- xii. Lottery tickets;
- xiii. Slot machines;
- xiv. Goods or items that are:
 - a. Embargoed;
 - b. Mislabeled;
 - c. Recalled;
 - d. Stolen;
 - e. Expired;
 - f. Repacked;
 - g. Unlabeled;
 - h. Straggled;
 - i. Parallel imports, with the exception of drugs and medicines when authorized by law, such as:
 - i. Non-counterfeit product imported from another country without the expressed permission of the intellectual property owner;
 - ii. Non-counterfeit, duty free product declared for personal use;
- xv. Used cosmetics;
- xvi. Counterfeit items, such as:
 - a. Counterfeit currency and stamps;
 - b. Counterfeit goods, pirated goods and/or content;
 - c. Potentially infringing items: items including but not limited to replicas, counterfeit items, and unauthorized copies of a product or item which may be in violation of certain copyrights, trademarks, or other intellectual property rights of third parties;
 - d. Counterfeit GM seeds that are sold without the mandatory biosecurity permits issued by the BPI
- xvii. Currency, credits and securities such as:
 - a. Currency or credits including, without limitation, digital currency or credits, and stored value cards;
 - b. Credit and debit cards;
 - c. Shares, stock, other securities and stamps.
- xviii. Precious metals such as but not limited to gold bar, silver bar, platinum bar, conflict minerals (natural sources extracted in a conflict zone and sold to perpetuate fighting), conflict diamond (diamond mined in a war zone and sold to finance an insurgency);
- xix. Artifacts and antiquities;
- xx. Weapons, such as:
 - a. Firearms, weapons such as pepper spray, replicas, and stun guns, etc.;
 - b. Lock-picking devices;
- xxi. Equipment and devices critical to surveillance and information gathering, such as:
 - a. Telecommunication equipment that has not been registered with the National Telecommunications Commission of the Philippines, and electronic surveillance equipment and other similar electronic equipment such as cable TV, de-scramblers, radar scanners, traffic signal control devices, wrapping devices and telephone tapping devices;
 - b. Circumvention devices used in modifying, decoding, recording of vital information;
- xxii. Government or Police related items such as badges, insignia or uniforms;
- xxiii. Prohibited services: the provision of services that are sexual, or illegal in nature;
- xxiv. Obscene, seditious or treasonous materials, as defined under the revised penal code and other special laws;
- xxv. Publications, books, films, videos and/or video games that do not comply with applicable laws in the country of sale and/or delivery;
- xxvi. Blasphemous materials showing disrespect, reverence, discrimination to any religion;

- xxvii. Products that:
 - a. Relate to campaigns, elections, political issues, or issues of public debate;
 - b. Advocate for or against, or attack a politician or political party; or
 - c. Promote or encourage any form of hate, crime, prejudice, rebellion or violence;
- xxviii. Any other items that are, or that contain components that are:
 - a. Illegal or restricted in the jurisdiction of the Buyer and/or the Seller or which otherwise encourage illegal or restricted activities, or
 - b. Determined by any governmental or regulatory authority to pose a potential health or safety risk.
- xxix. Wildlife, species (flora and/or fauna) whether live, stuffed, preserved, by-products and derivatives which are regulated by the Wildlife Act (RA 9147)
 - a. Live animals whether domestic or wild (exotic or indigenous) animals which may be found producing, consumption, aquatic, laboratory, including birds, worms, bees and butterflies, its products and by-products, veterinary feed premises and biological, laboratory specimen of animal origin, feeds and feed ingredients that may be carriers of communicable animal diseases
 - b. Terrestrial wildlife species whether live, stuffed, preserved, by-products & derivatives, including:
 - i. All wildlife species (fauna and flora) bred in captivity or propagated
 - ii. All exotic species (fauna and flora)
- xxx. Fishery and aquatic products:
 - a. All fish and fishery/aquatic products (live, fresh, dried and/or processed, frozen and chilled)
 - b. Live Mud crab ("Alimango"-*Scylla serrata*), carapace length of 10cm or over and weight of 200 grams or over
 - c. Seasnakes whether live, skin or products from the skin or meat
 - d. Shells such as:
 - i. Black lip pearl ("Concha Negra"-*Pinctada margaritifera*), with a minimum size of 11cm, maximum outside long axis measurement, taken at right angle to the base.
 - ii. Gold lip pearl ("Concha blanca"-*Pinctada maxima*), with a minimum size of 19cm, maximum outside long axis measurement, taken at right angle to the base.
 - iii. Semi-finished or Semi-processed Capiz shells ("Kapiz"), 8cm or over in diameter measured from the base perpendicular towards the top edge of the shell
 - iv. Hirise shell ("Babae"-*Trochus nodulosus*), with a minimum size of 5cm across the least diameter of the base, taken at right angles to the axis
 - v. Rough top shell or trochus shell ("Simong"-*trochus* rough variety-trochus maximus), with a minimum size of 7.5cm across the least diameter of the base, measured at right angles to the axis
- xxxi. All plants, planting materials, plant, and wood products:
 - a. Peel specimens, including wood packaging materials capable of harboring plant pests
 - b. Lumber, logs, poles, piles, log core and fitches/railroad ties produced from planted trees from both the forestlands and private lands
- xxxii. Coffee
- xxxiii. All sugarcane-based sugar such raw sugar, white sugar, and muscovado, and Molasses
- xxxiv. Leaf Tobacco such as Virginia, Burley, Native tobacco strips, tobacco stems, expanded tobacco and tobacco refuse/craps/dusts, etc.
- xxxv. Tobacco products such as cigarettes, cigars, heated tobacco products, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, homogenized tobacco, reconstituted tobacco, cut fillers, cut rags, snus, etc.
- xxxvi. Tobacco-related materials such as packaging materials, filters, flavorings, adhesives, collagens, machines and spare parts, etc.
- xxxvii. Crushed and/or sized sand gravel and/or other unconsolidated materials
- xxxviii. Iron, manganese and/or chromium ore(s), whether unprocessed or processed
- xxxix. Mine wastes and/or mill tailings
- xl. Unprocessed, raw, or run-of-mine mineral(s)
- xli. Controlled chemicals
- xlii. Legal tender Philippine notes and coins, checks, money order and other bills of exchange drawn in peso against banks operating in the Philippines in an amount exceeding PHP 50,000.00
- xliii. Cultural properties such as archaeological materials, traditional ethnographic materials, antiques, historical relics, natural history specimens, including holotypes, endangered, irreplaceable specimens and fossils
- xliv. Optical and magnetic media, its manufacturing equipment, parts and accessories and manufacturing materials
- xlv. Firearms and ammunition, parts and components thereof, accessories of firearms, tools, machinery or instruments used or intended to be used in the manufacture of firearms and ammunition or parts thereof, bullet proof vests, armguns, assault guns, and laser guns
- xlvi. Chainsaw, including its parts and accessories. Chainsaw refers to any portable saw or similar cutting implement rendered operative by an electric or internal combustion engine or similar means, that may be used for, but is not limited to, the felling of trees or the cutting of timber;
- xlvii. Nuclear and radioactive material having specific activity greater than 70kBq/g
- xlviii. Nuclear related dual use items
- xlix. Explosive/Explosive ingredients
- l. Firecrackers and Pyrotechnic devices

¹ DENR issued 01.19.2022
² DENR issued 01.19.2022
³ FDA issued 01.12.2022

ANNEX E. NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF PENALTIES

SCHEDULE F OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 8792, THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE ACT

VIOLATIONS	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
Hecking or creating which refers to unauthorized access into or interference in a computer system/server or information and communication system; or any access in order to corrupt, alter, steal, or destroy using a computer or other similar information and communication devices, without the knowledge and consent of the owner of the computer or information and communication system, including the introduction of computer viruses and the like, resulting in the corruption, destruction, alteration, theft or loss of electronic data messages or electronic documents	MINIMUM of 100,000 and a MAXIMUM commensurate to the damage incurred.	MANDATORY imprisonment of 6 months to 3 years

Prisey or the unauthorized copying, reproduction, dissemination, distribution, importation, use, removal, alteration, substitution, modification, storage, uploading, downloading, communication, making available to the public, or broadcasting of protected material, electronic signature or copyrighted works including legally protected sound recordings or phonograms or information material on protected works, through the use of telecommunication networks, such as, but not limited to, the internet, in a manner that infringes intellectual property rights

MINIMUM of 100,000 and a MAXIMUM commensurate to the damage incurred.	MANDATORY imprisonment of 6 months to 3 years
Other violations of the provisions of this Act	MAXIMUM of 1,000,000 OR 6 years

ANNEX E. NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF PENALTIES
SCHEDULE G OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 7394, THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES

The following schedule shall be the basis in the imposition of administrative fine for violation of R.A. No. 7394, otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines, particularly on the provisions on Price Tag.

SCHEDULE I

RANGE OF CAPITALIZATION (Php)	MINIMUM	MEDIUM	MAXIMUM
a. Below 20,000	500	1,000	1,500
b. 20,000 to 100,000	5,000	10,000	20,000
c. Above 100,000 to 200,000	10,000	20,000	30,000
d. Above 200,000	30,000	40,000	50,000

The following schedule shall be applied in cases of violation of the R.A. No. 7394 as provided in Section 1, Article IV, except (1), and its implementing rules.

SCHEDULE II

RANGE OF CAPITALIZATION (Php)	MINIMUM	MEDIUM	MAXIMUM
a. Below 20,000	500	1,000	1,500
b. 20,000 to 100,000	20,000	30,000	40,000
c. Above 100,000 to 300,000	40,000	50,000	60,000
d. Above 300,000 to 500,000	60,000	70,000	80,000
e. Above 500,000 to 1,000,000	100,000	140,000	180,000
f. Above 1,000,000 to 5,000,000	120,000	160,000	200,000
g. Above 5,000,000 to 10,000,000	240,000	260,000	280,000
h. Above 10,000,000	280,000	290,000	300,000
a. Below 500,000	80,000	70,000	80,000
b. Above 500,000 to 1,000,000	100,000	140,000	180,000
c. Above 1,000,000 to 5,000,000	120,000	160,000	200,000
d. Above 5,000,000 to 10,000,000	240,000	260,000	280,000
e. Above 10,000,000	280,000	290,000	300,000

NOTE: In the event the offender is engaged in two or more business activities, the activity to which a higher penalty corresponds shall be the basis in imposing the appropriate penalty.

SCHEDULE H OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 7561, THE PRICE ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES

In determining the impossible fine for violation of R.A. 7561 as amended, otherwise known as the Price Act, the following shall be taken into consideration:

SCHEDULE I

Range of Capitalization (Php)	Minimum	Medium	Maximum
a. Below 20,000	500	1,000	1,500
b. 20,000 to 100,000	5,000	10,000	20,000
c. Above 100,000 to 300,000	20,000	30,000	40,000
d. Above 300,000 to 500,000	40,000	50,000	60,000
e. Above 500,000 to 1,000,000	60,000	80,000	100,000
f. Above 1,000,000	100,000	125,000	150,000
a. 300,000 and below	20,000	30,000	40,000
b. Above 300,000 to 500,000	40,000	50,000	60,000
c. Above 500,000 to 1,000,000	60,000	80,000	100,000
d. Above 1,000,000	100,000	125,000	150,000

NOTE: In the event the offender is engaged in two or more business activities, the activity to which a higher fine is attached shall be imposed, subject to all other requirements of the law.

VIOLATIONS	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
Illegal Price Manipulation on Basic Necessity or Prime Commodity	Not less than 5,000 nor more than 2,000,000 AND/OR	Not less than 5 years nor more than 15 years
Price Colling	Not less than 5,000 nor more than 1,000,000 AND/OR	Not less than 1 year nor more than 10 years
Other violations	Not more than 1,000,000 OR	Not more than 6 years



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SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 10173 - THE DATA PRIVACY ACT OF 2012

VIOLATION	FINE (Php)		IMPRISONMENT	
	Personal Information	Sensitive Personal Information	Personal Information	Sensitive Personal Information
Unauthorized Processing	500,000 to 2,000,000	500,000 to 4,000,000	1 to 3 years	3 to 6 years
Accessing Data for Negligence	100,000 to 500,000	100,000 to 1,000,000	5 months to 2 years	1 to 3 years
Processing for Unauthorized Purposes	500,000 to 1,000,000	500,000 to 2,000,000	1 year and 6 months to 5 years	2 to 7 years
Unauthorized Disclosure	500,000 to 1,000,000	1,000,000 to 5,000,000	1 to 3 years	3 to 5 years
Compromise of Security Breaches		500,000 to 1,000,000	1 year and 6 months to 5 years	
Unauthorized Access of Information	500,000 to 2,000,000		1 to 3 years	
Malicious Disclosure	500,000 to 1,000,000		1 year and 6 months to 5 years	
Combination or Sale of Large Scale (personal information of 100 persons harmed, affected, or involved)	1,000,000 to 6,000,000		3 to 6 years	
Offender is a Public Officer	Regular schedule of penalties Accessory penalty of Dequalification from Public Office (for a term double that of the criminal penalty imposed)			

SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 6282 - THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

VIOLATIONS	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
Reproduction of Patent Infringement	Not less than 100,000 but not more than 1,000,000 AND/OR 50,000 to 200,000 AND	Not less than 6 months but not more than 3 years
Trademark Infringement and Unfair Competition	First Offense: 50,000 to 100,000 Second Offense: 100,000 to 500,000 Third Offense and Subsequent Offenses: 300,000 to 1,500,000	First Offense: 1 year to 3 years Second Offense: 3 years and 1 day to 6 years Third Offense and Subsequent Offenses: 6 years and 1 day to 9 years
Copyright Infringement	First Offense: 50,000 to 100,000 Second Offense: 100,000 to 500,000 Third Offense and Subsequent Offenses: 300,000 to 1,500,000	First Offense: 1 year to 3 years Second Offense: 3 years and 1 day to 6 years Third Offense and Subsequent Offenses: 6 years and 1 day to 9 years

NOTE: The criminal action for violation of patent infringement shall prescribe in 3 years from date of the commission of the crime.

SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 8731 - THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 2008

VIOLATION	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SEC. 11 HEREOF	Not less than 50,000 nor more than 500,000 AND/OR	Not less than 1 year nor more than 10 years
MANUFACTURER, SUPPLIER, OR DISTRIBUTOR OF ANY HEALTH PRODUCT	Not less than 500,000 nor more than 5,000,000 AND	Not less than 3 years nor more than 10 years
CONTINUING VIOLATION	Additional fine of one (1%) of the economic substance of the violative product or violation or Php 1,000, whichever is higher	

NOTE: Health products found in violation of the provisions of this Act and other relevant laws, rules and regulations may be seized and held in custody pending proceedings, without hearing or court order, when the director-general has reasonable cause to believe from facts found by him/her or an authorized officer or employee of the FDA that such health products may cause injury or prejudice to the consuming public.

SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES UNDER P.D. 1146 - OBTAINING THE FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY AND REGULATING THE FERTILIZER INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

VIOLATION	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES P.D. 1146	Not less than 5,000 but not more than 10,000 Not less than 500,000 nor more than 5,000,000 Amount equal to the value involved in three (3) crops each valued at which shall in no case be less than 5,000 nor more than 20,000	Not less than 10 years and 1 day nor more than 15 Not less than 15 years and 1 day nor more than 20 years

NOTE: If falsification of a public or commercial document is committed by means or on the occasion of the commission of any of the acts punishable herein, the offender shall be liable for the maximum fine and term of imprisonment as above prescribed. If the violation is committed by a corporation, firm, partnership, association or any other entity, the penalty shall be imposed upon the guilty officer or officers and such corporation, firm, partnership, association or entity.

SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 6969 - THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND HAZARDOUS AND NUCLEAR WASTE CONTROL ACT OF 1990

VIOLATIONS	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SEC 13 (a) to (k) of R.A. 6969	Not less than 500 nor more than 4,000 AND	Not less than 6 months and 1 day nor more than 5 years and 1 day (not covered by the Probation Law)
1. Offender is a foreigner	Deportation and barred from re-entering the Philippines after service of sentence	
2. Offender is a public officer	Dismissal and Perpetual declassification from any Executive or Appointive position	
ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SEC 13 (a) of P.D. R.A. 6969	At least 500,000 in exemplary damages	Not less than 12 years and 1 day nor more than 20 years
1. Offender is a foreigner	Deportation and barred from re-entering the Philippines after service of sentence	
2. Offender is managing partner, president, or chief executive of a corporation or other association	Dismissal and Perpetual declassification from any Executive or Appointive position	
3. Offender is a public officer	Dismissal and Perpetual declassification from any Executive or Appointive position	
ANY VIOLATION OF R.A. 6969	Administrative Fine of not less than 10,000 nor more than 30,000 (to be imposed by the Secretary of Natural Resources)	

SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES UNDER R.A. 8174 - THE CHAIN SAW ACT OF 2002

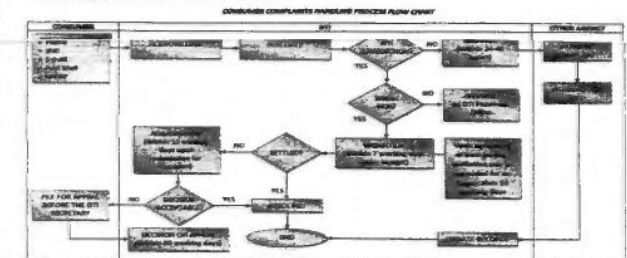
VIOLATIONS	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
Selling, Purchasing, Re-selling, Transferring, Distributing or Possessing a Chain Saw Without a Proper Permit	Not less than 15,000 but not more than 30,000 AND/OR	Not less than 6 months, 2 months and 1 day nor more than 8 years
Unlawful Importation or Manufacturing of Chain Saw	Not less than 1,000 nor more than 4,000 AND	Not less than 1 month nor more than 6 months
Tampering of Engine Serial Number	Not less than 1,000 nor more than 4,000 AND	Not less than 1 month nor more than 6 months
Actual Unlawful Use of Chain Saw	Not less than Php 30,000 but not more than 50,000 AND/OR	Not less than 8 years and one 1 day nor more than 8 years
Offender is a Public Officer	Accessory penalty of Perpetual Dequalification from Public Office	

NOTE: The chain saw confiscated under this Section shall be sold at public auction to qualified buyers and the proceeds thereof shall go to the Department.

SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES UNDER P.D. 738 - THE FORESTRY REFORM CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

VIOLATIONS	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
Unlawful occupation or destruction of forest lands	Not less than 500 nor more than 20,000 Ten times the actual fees and other charges which would have accrued under a license agreement, lease, license, or permit AND	Not less than 6 months nor more than 2 years
Unlawful possession of implements and devices used by forest officers	Not less than 1,000 nor more than 10,000 Confiscation of such implements and devices, and automatic cancellation of the license agreement, lease, license or permit, if the offender is a holder thereof AND	Not less than 2 nor more than 4 years
Kabalin	Eight times the regular forest charges due on the forest products destroyed, without prejudice to the payment of the actual cost of restoration of the second-growth forest determined by the Bureau AND	Not less than 4 years

ANNEX 2: CONSUMER COMPLAINTS HANDLING PROCESS FLOW CHART



NATURE OF VIOLATION	FINE (Php)	IMPRISONMENT
4. Giving false or misleading data or information, or submitting false or untrue information to the Bureau	10,000	2nd Offense: 10,000
6. Failure to comply with the order issued pursuant to Art. 11 of R.A. 738 relating to a consumer complaint	35,000	4th Offense: 35,000

ANNEX 3: NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF PENALTIES

NATURE OF VIOLATION	FREQUENCY OF VIOLATION	MANUFACTURER/IMPORTER/WHOLESALE/RETAILER/EXPORTER				DISTRIBUTOR/RETAILER/EXPORTER/IMPORTER			
		First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year	First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year
A. Unlawful Practice	1st Offense	30,000	42,000	50,000	60,000	17,000	21,000	25,000	30,000
		80,000	42,000	60,000	60,000	21,000	25,000	30,000	37,000
	2nd Offense	82,000	62,700	75,000	87,000	33,000	42,000	50,000	60,000
		79,000	62,700	75,000	112,000	42,000	50,000	60,000	75,000
B. Product Recall	1st Offense	30,000	42,000	50,000	60,000	17,000	21,000	25,000	30,000
		42,000	50,000	60,000	75,000	21,000	25,000	30,000	37,000
	2nd Offense	52,000	43,700	75,000	87,000	33,000	42,000	50,000	60,000
		75,000	62,700	75,000	112,000	42,000	50,000	60,000	75,000
C. Decontamination Release	1st Offense	30,000	42,000	50,000	60,000	17,000	21,000	25,000	30,000
		42,000	50,000	60,000	75,000	21,000	25,000	30,000	37,000
	2nd Offense	75,000	62,700	75,000	87,000	33,000	42,000	50,000	60,000
		82,700	75,000	87,000	112,000	42,000	50,000	60,000	75,000

17 MARCH 2022, Thursday



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



NCR mananatili sa Alert Level 1

By [Danilo Garcia](#), [Malou Escudero](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon)
- March 16, 2022 - 12:00am



Commuters and motorists endure gutter-deep flood at the corner of Taft and U. N. Avenues in Manila following Saturday afternoon's sudden heavy downpour on March 13, 2022.

The STAR/Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Mananatili sa Alert Level 1 ang National Capital Region at 47 iba pang lugar sa bansa hanggang Marso 31.

Ayon sa Inter-Agency Task Force, na bukod sa NCR, Alert Level 1 rin sa Luzon ang Cordillera Administrative Region: Abra, Apayao, Baguio City at Kalinga; Region I: Dagupan City, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union at Pangasinan; Region II: Batanes, Cagayan, Santiago City, Isabela at Quirino; Region III: Angeles City, Aurora, Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Olongapo City, Pampanga, Tarlac at Zambales; Region IV-A: Batangas, Cavite, Laguna at Lucena City; Region IV-B: Marinduque, Puerto Princesa City at Romblon; at Region V: Naga City and Catanduanes.

Samantala, sa Visayas, nasa Alert Level 1 na rin sa Region VI ang Aklan, Bacolod City, Capiz, Guimaras at Iloilo City; Region VII: Cebu City at Siquijor; at Region VIII: Biliran, Ormoc City at Tacloban City.

Inilagay naman sa Mindanao sa Alert Level 1 ang Region IX: Zamboanga City; Region X: Cagayan de Oro City at Camiguin; Region XI: Davao City; at CARAGA: Butuan City.

Ang mga hindi nabanggit na lugar ay nasa Alert Level 2 simula Marso 16 hanggang Marso 31, 2022.



NCR mananatili sa Alert Level 1

Nauna nang inirekomenda ng mga alkalde na bumubuo sa Metro Manila Council (MMC) ang pagpapatupad na ng Alert Level 1 sa rehiyon. Sinabi ni MMDA General Manager Frisco San Juan Jr., handa na umano ang mga alkalde na ibaba ang alert level sa 0 upang ganap nang mabuksan ang lokal na ekonomiya. Sa kabila ng rekomendasyon, handa naman umano ang mga alkalde na sumunod sa anumang desisyon na ibababa ng Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF).



EDITORIAL - Bagong variant na Deltacron

(Pilipino Star Ngayon)
- March 16, 2022 - 12:00am



Marso 2020 nang kumalat sa mundo ang COVID-19. Iglap lang at maraming nagkasakit at namatay. Sumadsad ang ekonomiya nang maraming bansa. Makalipas ang dalawang taon, narito pa rin ang COVID at nagkaron ng mga variant – Delta at Omicron. Daming pininsala ng Delta variant noong nakaraang taon. Makalipas ang ilang buwan, ang Omicron naman ang kumalat at marami ring nahawa bagama't hindi na gaanong nagdulot ng pagkamatay dahil sa bakuna. Hindi na umapaw ang mga pasyente sa ospital. Nabawasan nang bahagya ang pangamba sa pagkalat ng Omicron dahil sa proteksiyon ng bakuna laban sa COVID.

Nagpaalala ang World Health Organization (WHO) sa lahat na hindi pa lubusang nawawala ang virus at katunayan mayroong bagong variant na binabantayan – ang Deltacron na ang characteristics ay tulad sa Delta at Omicron variants. Nakita ang Deltacron variant sa Europe at kasalukuyang minomonitor ng mga eksperto. May mga nakita na umanong mga kaso roon. Pinag-aaralan na rin kung ang mga kasalukuyang vaccines ay uubra sa bagong variant.

Sabi ng WHO, nararapat na ipagpatuloy ng mga bansa ang nakaugaliang pag-iingat at pagsunod sa health protocols. Pinag-iingat ang mga bansang nagbaba na ng level of restrictions. Hindi pa dapat mag-relaks sa ngayon sapagkat nagmu-mutate ang virus.

Sinabi ng Department of Health (DOH) na posibleng ma-extend ang Alert Level 1 sa Metro Manila at 38 pang lugar. Maaaring ma-extend ito hanggang Marso 31 sa kabila na mababa na ang arawang kaso ng COVID sa MM at 38 lugar. Nasa mahigit 500 na lamang ang naitatalang kaso.

Ipagpatuloy ang nakaugaliang pag-iingat. Ngayong may nakitang bagong variant, hindi dapat magkampang ang lahat. Ipagpatuloy ng pamahalaan ang pagbabakuna. Marami pang hindi nababakunahan sa kabila na dumagsa na ang bakuna. Hindi dapat masayang ang mga ito. Hikayatin ang lahat na magpabakuna para may proteksiyon at makaligtas sa peligro.



EDITORIAL - Bagong variant na Deltacron

Tiyak na marami ang hindi na magpapabakuna sapagkat inaakala nilang naglaho na ang virus. Mababa na nga naman ang kaso. Dapat malaman na narito pa ang virus at naghihintay lamang ng madadapuan. Huwag hintaying mangyari ito.



Public warned: Covid-19 still present

BY JOM GARNER

@tribunephil_jom

While many areas in the country are now under Alert Level 1, the public should be reminded that Covid-19 is still present, National Task Force (NTF) against Covid-19 special medical adviser, Dr. Ted Herbosa, said Wednesday.

"I think the public should be reminded that even though many areas in the country are now Alert Level 1, it is important to remember that Covid-19 is just around the corner and it could reemerge," Herbosa said in his interview in the Laging Handa public briefing.

He said that similar things happened to other countries such as China, South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, as well as in Europe and the United States.

Herbosa noted that most vulnerable

populations such as senior citizens should also get vaccinated against Covid-19 to protect them from serious effects of the respiratory disease.

He made the remark after the Inter-Agency Task Force retained the Alert Level 1, the most-relaxed alert level classification in the five-tier system set by the government in Metro Manila while placing more areas under the same alert level.

Acting presidential spokesperson Martin Andanar said that the country's pandemic task force has approved a total of 48 areas under Alert Level 1 from 16 to 31 March.

Meanwhile, Herbosa also clarified that the possible declaration of Alert Level 0 classification in a certain area doesn't mean Covid-19 has been eliminated.

While he admits that the National Capital Region is already qualified to de-escalate to Alert Level 0, Herbosa said

he still favors the recommendation of the IATF to maintain the Alert Level 1 status in NCR until 31 March.

"I agree with the recommendation of IATF because Covid-19 is still there, anytime it could reemerge and an outbreak may happen," he said.

He also noted that the Alert Level System will now be part of the Department of Health's epidemiology surveillance of new diseases such as the Covid-19 pandemic.

Meanwhile, based on the weekly case bulletin of the Health department, the country reported a total of 4,131 new Covid-19 cases from 7 to 13 March, which brought the country's total caseload to 3,671,293.

The daily average cases for the week was 590, 35 percent lower than the infections reported prior to the week in review.

17 MARCH 2022, Thursday



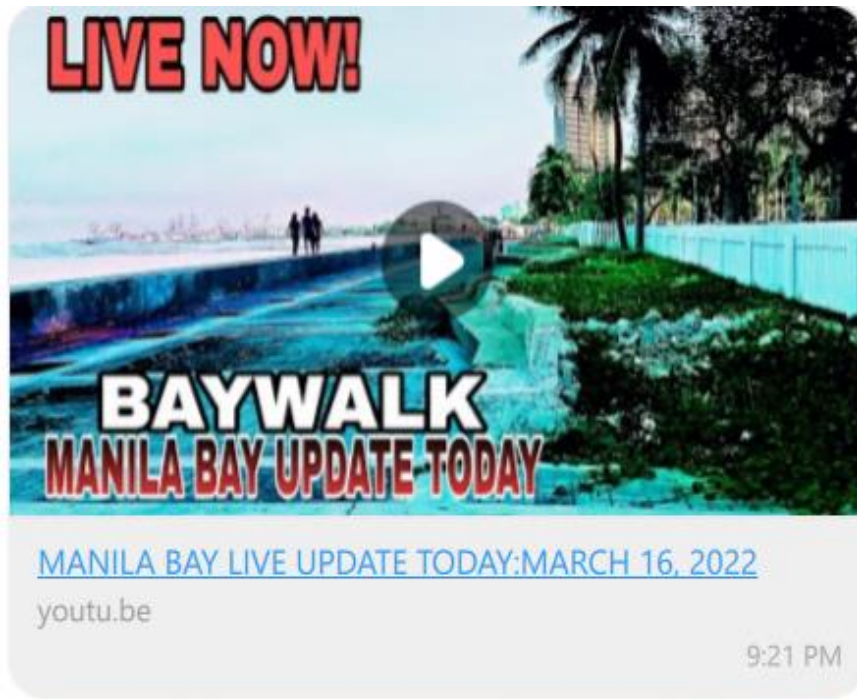
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
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